

Fall from extension ladder – Inspection #1086350

A **32 year old male** employee was fatality injured when he fell 20-feet off a 28-foot extension ladder while providing maintenance to a residential satellite dish. Technicians often work alone in the field, servicing and installing satellite dishes on residential roofs. Technicians bring with them to the works site all of the tools and PPE required to perform the job. The PPE includes ladder locks intended to prevent swaying and slippage, and their use is required by company policy. On the day of the accident, the victim had completed a hazard assessment checklist before work was conducted, and checked the use of all required equipment. During the investigation it was determined that the victim was apparently not working from the roof instead of the ladder, as all of his tools and equipment were in arms reach of the ladder. There was no damage to the feet of the ladder. The ladder had been place in a 4:1 ratio against the residential home and was secured on a non-slippery surface. Since there were no actual witnesses of the accident, it is unknown how the victim fell from the ladder. The ladder locks were never found at the scene. The home owner found the victim lying on the ground and called 911.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

No violations of the TOSHA standards were found on the day of the investigation.

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Photo 1 of 2: Photo shows the 28 foot extension ladder against the residential home. The height of the roof was measured 20 feet

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Photo 2 of 2 – The photo shows a similar ladder lock that comes equipped on all Directv work vans.