

## WWS Safety Standard for Mill-made Platforms

### Platforms

- Platforms less than 13 inches tall - solid; sturdy; large enough for two feet with little overhang
- Platforms 13 inches and taller - solid; sturdy; consider weight and mobility; *steps with uniform spacing*
- Platforms 48 inches and above; and for structures with 4 steps or more and a top platform; standard handrailing, midrail, and toeboards on three sides of the platform
- Top Platforms - shall be no less than the width of the stairway and a minimum of 30 inches in length measured in the direction of travel.

### Steps to platforms

- Step Riser Height – 1) must be consistent for each step and 2) must be between 6.5 inches and 9.5 inches
- Tread Width - minimum width of 22 inches
- Tread Depth – 1) must be consistent for each step and 2) must be between 11 inches and 9.5 inches
- Angle – angle of rise to horizontal must be below 50 degrees
- Step Side Railings – for platforms 48 inches and higher; and for structures with 3 steps or more (not counting platform); stair step railings shall be provided on at least one side of the steps

- 50 Degrees – Steps over 50 degrees are ships ladders and identified with orange marking

### Ladders – Fixed 90 degree vertical

- Ladder rungs, steps, and cleats
  - have to be parallel, level, and uniformly spaced when the ladder is in position for use
  - have to be spaced not less than 10 inches and not more than 14 inches apart, as measured between the centerlines of the rungs, cleats, and steps
  - have a minimum clear width of 16 inches (width of inside of ladder)
  - From center of rung have to have 15 inches of clearance out (both sides) to any permanent obstruction
  - Must have 7 inches clearance from cleat to front of ladder (direction of your toes).
  - Must have 2' 6" clearance from cleat to backside of climber; along the entire length
- The side rails of ladders (to platforms) have to extend 42 inches above the top of the access level or landing platform served by the ladder.
- Side rails have to be continuous when they extend above platform (part of ladder structure; not platform handrail)
- At the platform - the side rails have to flair out to provide not less than 24 inches and not more than 30 inches of clearance.

- The step-across distance from the centerline of the rungs or steps is not less than 7 inches and not more than 12 inches to the nearest edge of the structure, building, or equipment accessed from the ladders

### Handrails and Midrails

- The top edge height of top rails are 42 inches, plus or minus 3 inches, above the walking-working surface
- Midrails . . . are installed between the walking-working surface and the top edge of the guardrail system when there is not a wall or parapet that is at least 21 inches high
- Midrails are installed at a height midway between the top edge of the guardrail system and the walking-working surface
- Top rails and midrails are at least 1.25-inches in diameter not to exceed 2 inches in diameter.
- The minimum clearance between handrails and any other object is 2.25 inches

### Toeboards

- Have a minimum vertical height of 3.5 inches as measured from the top edge of the toeboard to the level of the walking-working surface.
- Do not have more than a 0.25-inch clearance or opening above the walking-working surface.

