



## MEDIA RELEASE

CT Department of Labor *Communications Office*  
Commissioner Kurt Westby

# Oct. 26 CONN-OSHA Seminar Examines New Federal Rule on Fall Prevention that Helps Prevent Injuries

WETHERSFIELD, September 27, 2018 – Employees in the Connecticut Department of Labor’s Division of Occupational Safety and Health (CONN-OSHA) will sponsor an October 26 seminar to examine recent changes in the federal rule designed to better protect workers from falls that can occur in the workplace. It is estimated that nationwide, the new rule has prevented nearly 30 fatalities and 5,845 lost-workday injuries each year.

“Walking Working Surfaces in General Industry,” which looks at occupations ranging from painters to warehouse workers, will be held 10 a.m. to noon at the agency’s Central Office, 200 Folly Brook Boulevard.

According to Catherine Zinsser, CONN-OSHA Occupational Safety Training Specialist and event facilitator, the seminar identifies hazards, and examines how the new rule promotes safety through the use of updated and clarified standards, along with new training and inspection requirements. The updated rule, which became effective on January 17, 2017, does not change construction or agricultural standards.

“Falls from heights and from the same level (defined as a working surface) are among the leading causes of serious work-related injuries and deaths,” Zinsser explains. “The updated rule incorporates advances in technology, industry best practices, and national consensus standards to provide effective and cost-efficient worker protection. Specifically, it updates general industry standards addressing slip, trip, and fall hazards and adds requirements for personal fall protection systems.”

There is no cost for the seminar, although pre-registration is required. Please contact Zinsser at [Catherine.Zinsser@ct.gov](mailto:Catherine.Zinsser@ct.gov) to register or with any questions.

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