

**KEYWORDS:** LADDERS ; EQUIPMENT ; FALL RISK ; SLIP RISK**10-15 MINUTES**

# Topic: A-FRAME LADDER SAFETY



## IDEAS FOR YOUR TALK:

- *People remember facts better when they're interactive and visual: use an A-frame ladder to illustrate or demonstrate your risk statements.*
- *People remember stories better than raw facts: think of a personal story that you can share.*
- *People structure thoughts to remember them: think of risks or defects that can occur with each component of a ladder and go from bottom to top.*
- *YouTube is another good source of information and offers many safety videos and demonstrations. Select only videos that are high-quality.*

## 1. SUGGESTED ENGAGEMENT QUESTIONS:

- Who has used an A-frame ladder on this job?
- What is the main risk involved in using A-frame ladders?
- Has anyone heard of an incident or accident involving a ladder?

## 2. TALKING POINTS:

- **THE RULE:** According to OSHA Construction Standards, ladders shall be inspected by a competent person for visible defects on a periodic basis and after any occurrence that could affect safe use.
- Platform ladders are safer than A-frame ladders with the addition of a larger working surface and no top rung.
- A-frame ladders must be inspected prior to use and removed from service if found defective. Defective ladders can fail, causing injuries.
- Always lock down the braces, never lean the ladder. A-frame ladders leaned against wall slip out causing falls.
- Always face the ladder. Reaching from the ladder can result in falls when it's not in front of you to grab.
- Make sure there are no materials or debris at the base of the ladder. Trips and falls can easily occur coming backwards down a ladder.

## 3. CLOSING QUESTIONS:

- Do you know of any damaged ladders or equipment?
- Do you have questions on this subject, inspection or safe use?
- Are you aware of a risk on this jobsite that shouldn't be?



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