

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES TOWER RESCUE

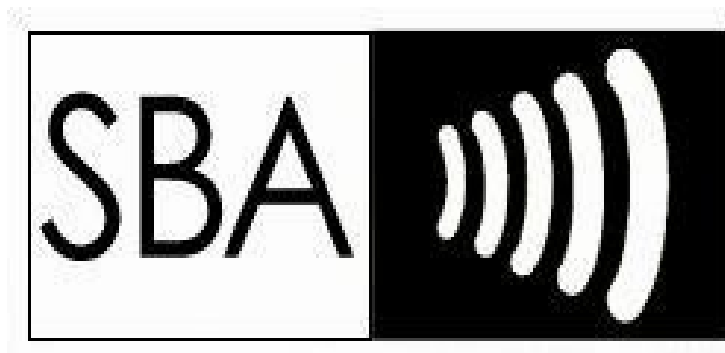




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1. SCOPE AND APPLICATION

This procedure is intended to inform all personnel of techniques involved during elevated work so they can perform their work safely. This procedure is applicable to all employees and is a recommended guidance to subcontractors of SBA Telecommunications, Inc. (Collectively, "SBA") who performs elevated work where a fall hazard of 6 feet or more exists. All equipment used for fall protection shall comply with ANSI Z359.1 and Subpart M (Fall Protection Standard). All employees performing elevated tower work must have formal "Tower Safety and Rescue training" as specified by the Regional Safety manager or company policy. Proof of certification for each climbing employee must be on site at all times. **For all work performed at heights of 150 feet and above rescue lines will be rigged prior to performing the assigned job tasks. The use of capstan hoist for rescue is strictly prohibited.**

2. PURPOSE

To insure that all personnel performing elevated tower work are prepared in an emergency to provide assistance and/or remove an injured employee from an elevated workstation.

3. RESCUE PLAN

3.1. To ensure all hazards, control measures, and rescue information is communicated to each employee the crew shall conduct a Pre-Work Assessment Survey that includes the following:

- Rescue method and equipment to be used,
- Location of rescue equipment and first aid kits,
- Longitude and Latitude numbers,
- Directions and map to site,
- All emergency numbers and contact numbers.

3.2. Prior to work the tower crew will hold a tailgate meeting to discuss the information listed above in addition to job hazards and scope of work.

4. RESCUE PROCEDURES

4.1. In the event of a fall incident, regardless of the medical condition of the employee, the supervisor or foreman will direct an employee to call emergency personnel and give them adequate information to prepare for the situation they will encounter upon arrival.

4.2. In the event a climber is unable to remove himself from the tower the following procedure will be put into action to insure the employee receives adequate and timely response.

4.2.1. The supervisor or lead person will obtain all rescue equipment and take measures to get it to the rescuer.

4.2.2. The rescuer will rig a controlled descent (load) line above the injured employee as close as possible to the injured employee.

4.2.3. A vertical lifeline will be secured to a separate anchorage point (Unless the tower structure is the anchorage for both) next to the descent line.

4.2.4. The rescuer will attach a rope grab from their back D-ring to the vertical lifeline.

4.2.5. The rescuer will connect his/her descending device to the load line and descend into position to connect to the injured climber.

- 4.2.6. After utilizing the breaking device on the Fisk descender the rescuer will attach a carabineer to the injured employee's back D-ring. This Carabineer will then be attached to the controlled descent device (not to the rescuer's harness).
- 4.2.7. The rescuer will remove the injured employee from his fall arrest or suspension device and lower the employee safely to the ground.
- 4.2.8. First aid should be administered to the injured employee by a trained employee until the local emergency medical team arrives.

5. POST-RESCUE

- 5.1. SBA's safety department should be notified immediately of the accident.
- 5.2. The site and all equipment should be secured until a proper accident investigation can be performed.