August 27, 2012

ANSI/ASSE A10.18-2012

The newly reapproved and reaffirmed standard, “Safety Requirements for Temporary Floors, Holes, Wall Openings, Stairways and Other Unprotected Edges in Construction and Demolition Operations” [(ANSI/ASSE A10.18-2007 (R2012)], prescribes rules and establishes minimum safety requirements for the protection of employees and the public from hazards arising out of or associated with temporary roof and floor holes, wall openings, stairways and other unprotected edges, including low-sloped roofs, during construction and demolition activities.

The standard applies only to those instances when the leading edge work is inactive and is not currently under construction and is, therefore, considered an “unprotected side and edge.”

Past versions of A10.18 include:

1977: The standard was originally published.
1983: The standard was revised.
1986: The standard was reaffirmed.
1996: The standard was revised.
2007: The standard was revised.
2012: The standard was reaffirmed.

The standard is one of a series of safety standards that have been formulated by the A10 Accredited Standards Committee on Safety Requirements for Construction and Demolition operations. The A10 standards serve as a guide to contractors, labor and equipment manufacturers.
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A10.18-2007 (R2012) Scope
This standard prescribes rules and establishes minimum safety requirements for the protection of employees and the public from hazards arising out of or associated with temporary roof and floor holes, wall openings, stairways, and other unprotected sides and edges, roofs, during construction and demolition activities. This standard applies only to those instances when the leading edge work is inactive and is not currently under construction and is, therefore, considered an unprotected side and edge.
This standard does not apply to scaffolds or scaffold stairs used as temporary access (see ANSI/ASSE A10.8, "Scaffolding Safety Requirements").

This standard does not apply to steel erection (see ANSI/ASSE A10.13, "Safety Requirements for Steel Erection").

This standard does not apply to the application of membrane roofing materials. See ANSI/ASSE A10.24, "Roofing – Safety Requirements for Low-Sloped Roofs" for membrane roofing operations on low-sloped roofs.

**A10.18-2007 (R2012) Purpose**
The purpose of this standard is to establish reasonable and practical safety requirements to protect employees and the public from falls through temporary roof and floor holes, wall openings, stairways, active and inactive leading edges and other unprotected edges.

**Exceptions.** In cases of practical difficulties, unnecessary hardships or new developments, the authority having jurisdiction may grant exceptions to the literal requirements of this standard or permit the use of other devices or methods, but only when it is clearly evident that an equivalent degree of protection is thereby secured.

**Requirements for Fall Protection.** This standard requires the guarding of unprotected roof and floor holes, wall openings and other unprotected sides or edges or the use of safety nets or personal fall arrest systems when guardrail systems are not in place.

**Links**
- [ANSI Essential Requirements](#)
- [ASSE Info on Standards Development Process](#)
- [Official Memorandum of Understanding Between OSHA & ANSI](#)
- [Office of Management & Budget Circular OMB-A119](#)
- [Position Statement on Consensus Standards](#)
- [Safeguarding: Are ANSI Standards Really Voluntary?](#)
- [What’s the Difference Between an OSHA Rule and an ANSI Standard?](#)
OSHA Recognition

100 Most Frequently Cited OSHA Construction Standards in 1991
Crane Safety Training for Engineers & Supervisors
Final Rules
Proposed Rules

U.S. Department of Energy Recognition

DOE-STD-1090-2007

Federal Aviation Administration Recognition

Fall Protection Program

State Recognition

Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division