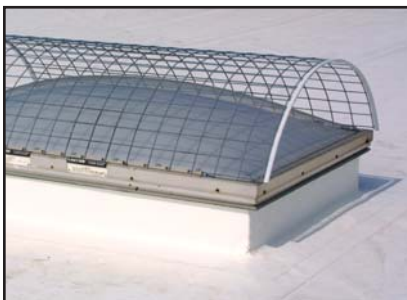


The Importance of Permanent Fall Protection Systems

D. C. Taylor Co. is a qualified installer of permanent fall protection systems



Fall restraint and fall arrest systems



Skylight screens



Horizontal lifelines

Safety, cost-savings are key benefits of permanent fall protection systems.

Fall protection systems are an important part of rooftop safety. Consider that every time someone steps on your roof – whether it is an employee, contractor, or anyone else – the chance for falls and damage claims against your company increases. With a fall protection system, these risks are significantly lowered. And with a permanent system in place, you can feel secure that exposed workers, and your company, have protection against the potential loss associated with the negative consequences of a fall.

Examples of fall protection systems.

Permanent Fall Arrest Anchors: Fall arrest anchors are steel posts which are secured to a roof's substructure and/or roof-deck. Eyelets on top serve as easily accessible personal fall arrest tie-off points. The Occupational Health & Safety Administration (OSHA) standards require personal fall arrest system lifelines to be secured to an anchorage point capable of supporting 5,000 lbs. Whether it is an individual tie-off point, or a component of a horizontal lifeline system, fall arrest anchors are an effective, sound option.

Horizontal Lifeline Systems: If the determination is made to install fall arrest anchors, a horizontal lifeline is an option. A horizontal lifeline is steel cable that runs through the eyelets of the permanent fall arrest anchors. A worker can tie-off to the cable and use it as an anchor in a personal fall arrest system. A benefit of the system is that it allows for the connector to trail the worker thus maintaining continuous anchor connection, and decreasing the chance of a pendulum swing fall, which can produce an equal amount of energy as the initial free fall itself.

Guardrails: A guardrail system is a preventive form of fall protection which allows for performing most tasks without further fall protection equipment and interference. Guardrails can be secured permanently to the roof's substructure, usually at the roof edge, or can be a self-supporting modular system that can be placed at a roof edge, skylight, roof hatch, or other areas where fall prevention is possible.



D. C. Taylor Co. has working relationships with several fall protection manufacturers and is qualified to assess, supply, install, and train on the proper use of permanent fall protection systems.

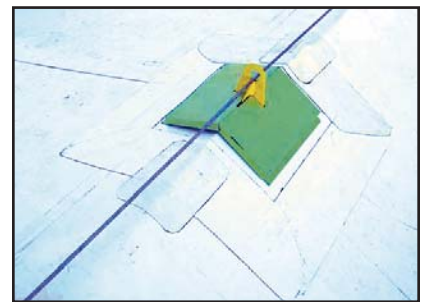
To learn more about how a permanent fall protection system can benefit you and your company, contact Brad Richardson, Director of Environmental Health and Safety, at 800-876-6346 or e-mail brad.richardson@dctaylorco.com.

More information is also available at www.dctaylorco.com.

Four steps for establishing a permanent safety and fall protection plan.

1 Hazard assessment. You will need to have your roof assessed to identify exposures to fall hazards associated with the tasks an employee and/or contractor may endeavor throughout the life of your roof. Next is an evaluation to determine which fall protection system – including guardrails, toeboards, skylights screens, skylight guardrails, and fall restraint/fall arrest systems – will best fit your environment and facility needs. Further considerations include horizontal catwalks, roof hatch guardrails, and fixed- and portable-ladder access vertical lifelines.

2 Fall safety engineering. Select which type of permanent fall protection system is best for you – pre-engineered or engineered. Pre-engineered systems are developed by manufacturers and are readily available for installation; engineered systems are custom-designed for clients, and manufactured and installed based on their needs. The latter includes contracting with a structural engineering firm to perform hazard analysis surveys and prepare plans, specifications, details, and construction drawings. Upon completion, you are provided with stamped, as-built drawings.



Pre-engineered systems



Engineered systems

3 Installation. Ensure crews are trained and experienced to install safety systems according to specifications.

4 Training. Train your employees on the use and maintenance of your permanent safety systems so a competent person can safely access the roof.

