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SAFETY BULLETIN

February 1, 2006

RE: Workers climbing towers.

To Whom It May Concern:

All Non-Stop towers sold after December 1, 2004 meet the letter of the integral climbing ladder standard, 1926.451(e)(6), which governs scaffold towers used for access, and are legal to climb.

Unless safer access is available, we recommend that workers climb Non-Stop towers to access the work platform, provided they do so on the ends of the scaffolding rather than in the middle of a run. This is the access method we have recommended since 1975 when we designed the configuration of the tower for strength and access.

Workers should climb up past the work platform, move around to the platform side of the tower, and then step down on to the platform. In situations where it is considered too awkward to climb past the elevating carriage, workers should use the Non-Stop Access Landing accessory to transition from the tower directly to the masons' walkboards.

DO NOT USE EXTENSION LADDERS. When the platform is raised, the ladder can separate. We are aware of at least two deaths and numerous serious accidents that have occurred while workers were using portable extension ladders to access adjustable masonry scaffolding. Therefore, we **DO NOT** recommend the use of extension ladders to access Non-Stop scaffolding.

STAIR TOWERS are not recommended for access. The gap present between the tower and the Non-Stop platform can exceed allowable dimensions. The stairs are only adjacent to the platform 50% of the time.

For towers made before December 1, 2004, enforcement of OSHA's letter of interpretation dated 3/14/2002, has been suspended until their draft directive "grandfathering" Non-Stop towers can be finalized and approved by their Public Policy Board. Ask your OSHA compliance officer to check his database for an internal memorandum from Washington dated 9/30/05 suspending citations until the matter is finalized. OSHA does not share their internal memoranda, but we have been assured it is in place and in force.

For any additional information or clarification please call 1-800-845-0845.