



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7363**



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Section 301.4.1 and 304.11

Question:

Is it the intent of section 301.4.1, to allow for alternate methods of compliance, such as personnel tied off with a harness, when section 304.11 indicates guards "shall" be required, but are not installed.

Answer

No.

Commentary:

The guard does not constitute a material or method of construction. It is a life safety concern for workers. While OSHA rules permit harnesses in some instances, the code does not offer this alternate.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.