

Potentially Fatal Decisions

An entertainment industry worker was injured after falling from the top of a main entertainment stage. The worker, who was reportedly a sound technician, was told to wear a safety harness before climbing one of the stage's towers.

The worker did not wear the safety harness and fell roughly 30 feet to the ground, breaking one leg in several places. Fortunately, the worker had no head trauma or other life threatening injuries.

Several questions come to mind:

- 1. Why did this employee refuse to wear the appropriate PPE, a safety harness with a lanyard to tie off?
- 2. Why did his supervisor not enforce the safety procedure to wear the safety harness?
- 3. Why did others ignore this potential danger by not stopping this worker from climbing without his safety harness?

This incident should remind all of us why we have specific safety policies to protect all workers. Follow all safety procedures to protect yourself. In addition, we are our brother's keeper. Should you see someone taking risks and not following safety procedures, stop them and remind them the importance of following all safety rules and policies. Imagine how you would feel if you could have stopped a serious injury, but took no action. No one should get hurt doing their job and trying to earn a living.

Remember: "No task is so important that it be done at the risk of Safety."