



# Safety Bulletin EM 385-1-1

Mobile District Safety and Occupational Health Office  
**SAFE ACCESS - GENERAL**

Bulletin 44-09

The 15 September 2008 Safety Manual (yellow book) is now in effect for most new contracts and government operations. Please note the changes for safe access as stated below.

## 24.A SAFE ACCESS - GENERAL

24.A.01 Safe access shall be provided to work areas and where danger exists of workers falling through floor, roof, or wall openings, or from platforms, runways, ramps, or fixed stairs.

- a. A stairway, ladder, ramp, or personnel hoist shall be provided where there is a break of 19 in (48.2 cm) or more in a route of access.
- b. Means of access constructed of metal shall not be used for electrical work or where the potential exists to contact electrical conductors.
- c. Means of access between levels shall be kept clear to allow free passage of workers. If work is performed in an area that restricts free passage, a second means of access shall be provided.
- d. For all USACE-owned/operated facilities, every open-sided floor or platform 4 ft (1.2 m) or more above adjacent floor or ground level shall be guarded by a railing system (or equivalent) along all open sides (except where there is an entrance to a ramp, stairway or fixed ladder. The railing system shall be provided with a toeboard when necessary. > **See 21.E.01.**

