

## **PART 13**

### **Entrances, Exits, Stairways and Ladders**

**Previous Regulation(s):** New (Previously enforced through other regulatory requirements)

**Summary of requirements:**

- **Safe access and egress** must be provided and maintained from the workplace and all work sites and work-related areas at a workplace.
- **Temporary doorways – construction project site** - must be designed and constructed to open outward and not locked in the closed position when a worker is at the site.
- **Doors to and from a workplace or work area** – ensure these can be opened without substantial effort and are not obstructed.
- **Secondary means of egress** – there must be a ready, convenient and safe secondary means of egress that is conspicuously marked and readily useable at all times in the event the primary means of egress from a workplace becomes unusable or if a worker could be isolated from the primary means of egress.
- **Emergency exits** – must be conspicuously marked and designed to enable quick and unimpeded evacuation.
- **Stairs to be provided** – when work on a multi-storey building or structure has progressed to 10 or more metres above ground level.
- **Evacuation exits** – must be conspicuously marked and designed to enable quick and unimpeded evacuation.
- **Ladders:**
  - **Loads** – Ladders must be designed and constructed to safely support any load that will be imposed on it.
  - **Worker to inspect ladder** – prior to each use.
  - **Metal ladders or metal reinforced rails on a ladder** - may not be used near any exposed energized electrical equipment.
  - **Commercially manufactured portable ladder** – must comply with the appropriate CSA and ANSI standards.
  - **Site-fabricated portable wood ladder** – must be constructed entirely from straight-grained construction grade or better lumber; has side rails; has evenly spaced rungs; and if the length is 5 m or less, has side rails measuring at least 50 mm by 100 mm, or if the length is more than 5 m, has side rails measuring at least 50 mm by 150 mm.

- **Double-width site-fabricated portable ladder** – must be constructed from straight-grained, construction grade or better lumber; has side rails that are not notched, tapered, lapped or spliced; if its length is 5 m or less, has side rails measuring at least 50 mm by 100 mm, or if more than 5m, has side rails measuring at least 50 mm by 150 mm, is composed of 3 rails that are evenly spaced; is at least 1.5 m wide, and has evenly spaced rungs
- **Extension ladders** – must be equipped with locks that securely hold the sections of the ladder in the extended position; must not exceed 14.6 m in length if it consists of two sections and 20 m in length, if it consists of more than two sections. If a section is extended, the extended section must overlap another section for at least 1 m for a ladder less than 11 m in length; 1.25 m for a ladder between 11 m and 15 m in length; or 1.5 m for a ladder over 15 m in length.
- **Portable ladders** – must be secured against movement at all times during use and must be placed on a stable, level base. Where a portable ladder is used as a means of access it must extend at least 1 m above the platform, roof or other landing; and for a portable ladder other than a stepladder, it must be placed against a structure so that the slope of the ladder is no more than 1:4.
- **Stepladders** – must not be more than 6 m high when set for use and have legs that are securely held in position. Workers must use the ladders in accordance with manufacturer's specification and safe operating instructions.
- **Prohibition re: use of portable ladders** – work must not be performed from either of the top two rungs, steps or cleats of a commercially manufactured portable ladder or a step ladder unless it has a railed platform at the top or the manufacturer's specification for the stepladder permit it.
- **Fixed ladders** – employer or owner must ensure that a ladder that is permanently fixed to a supporting building or structure is designed by a professional engineer and is constructed, erected and installed in accordance with the specifications certified by a professional engineer.

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**Note: This is high-level summary.  
Please refer to the Regulation for more detailed requirements.**