



## Cooling Tower Access for Service and Repair

### I. Scope and Purpose

Cooling tower work requires close interaction with building managers and engineers. Many jobs will interfere with some portion of nearly every building system. It may be necessary, therefore, to exchange and document written safety plans with site management. This exchange of information is required under OSHA and should identify the safety measures needed to complete your task. This document provides a guideline to identify possible hazards and avoid them.

### II. General Guidelines

#### A. Control of Hazardous Energy

*Identify sources of energy*

1. Use Lock-out devices, Dedicated locks, Tags

#### B. Confined Space

*Does work area meet the definition of confined space?*

1. Is a confined space permit required?
2. Is the ERT trained and able to respond?

#### C. Hazardous Chemical (HazCom)

*Are you bringing HazCom material onto the job?*

*Are other contractors using HazCom material?*

1. Are the MSDS sheets on site and are you aware of the hazards?

#### D. Fall Protection and Personal Protective Equipment

*Is there a standard rail to protect you from a fall over 4 feet? If no rail, consider PPE.*

1. Point of attachment must withstand 5000 lbs.
2. Full body harness.
3. Declination device.
4. Total fall is less than 6 feet.
5. Is there a method to retrieve you when you fall?

*Are there chemicals or abrasives?*

1. Use safety glasses and face shield.
2. Use proper gloves.

#### E. Working surfaces

*Are ladders in good working order?*

*Is the floor designed to hold your weight?*

*Are all holes or openings covered?*