

Job site: _____
 Foreman: _____

Date: _____
 G.C. _____

SMOHIT Safety Sense Toolbox Talks for the Sheet Metal Industry	Alternative Methods of Fall Protection	Instructor Tips
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under very limited conditions, OSHA Subpart M allows employers to use up to three alternatives to conventional fall protection. For some types of work, such as leading edge work, the employer must prove that conventional fall protection is infeasible or creates a greater hazard. For work performed on rooftops, no proof of fall protection plan is required. The alternative measures to conventional fall protection are safety monitoring systems, warning line systems, and controlled access zones. A safety monitoring system uses a competent person to warn workers near unprotected edges. This method should only be used as a last resort and should only be used if conventional fall protection is not feasible. Safety monitoring systems can only be used alone on roofs with a slope of 4 in 12 or less, provided the roof is no more than 50 feet wide. A warning line system is a barrier that warns workers that they are approaching an unprotected edge and defines the area where roofing can take place without guardrails, safety net, or PFAS. Warning line systems should only be used only on low-sloped roofs as steep-sloped roofs require conventional fall protection. Workers performing roofing work outside warning lines must be protected by fall restraint or conventional fall protection systems. Workers outside the warning lines must be closely supervised and must comply with all components of the fall protection regulations. A controlled access zone is a clearly marked area in which work may take place without the use of conventional fall protection systems such as guardrails, hole covers, safety nets, or personal fall arrest. Controlled access zones limit the workers' access to areas where leading edge work and other operations occur. Alternative methods of fall protection should be utilized only if conventional fall protection is not feasible or if it will cause more of a hazard than prevent one. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask workers to give examples of when alternative methods of fall protection are better to use than conventional methods.

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