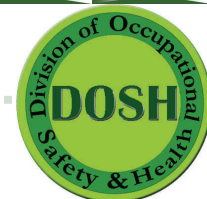


# Injury Fact Sheet— Falls from Elevations



## Ready-Mixed Concrete Dealers - Fall Injuries

42 workers were seriously injured in falls from equipment or structures on vehicles and other elevated work surfaces in 2000-2004.



A driver rinses out the interior of a mixing drum.

These injuries were so serious, workers had to take an **average of 226 days off work** to recover, or in some cases were permanently disabled. These injuries are costly and affect your industrial insurance premiums. They contribute to the reason for the average hourly base rate of \$1.82 per employee paid by dealers in 2006. If your company has a higher than average number of injuries (claims), your “experience rating” could increase by as much as 25% in one year. As a result, the average hourly rate would increase from **\$1.82 to \$2.25 per employee**.

Stated in another way, if you had 5 full-time employees and had an average number of injuries (claims), you would pay about \$ 18,200 in premiums in 2006. However, If your experience rating increased by 25% due to higher than average injuries, you would pay an additional \$4,300 in premiums.

### Common causes of fall injuries

Falls from vehicle equipment, cabs, and other elevated locations can occur due to slippery surfaces, use of unsure hand- and footholds during climbing and descending, and use of damaged equipment.



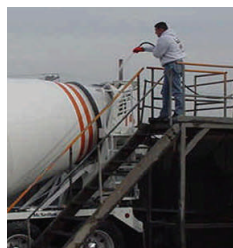
Drivers are at risk for falls at the plant or delivery site when they must climb on vehicles or work from elevated structures or equipment to:

- Check and fill water and admixture tanks.
- Check and adjust the concrete “slump”.
- Monitor the product discharging process.
- Hose down the mixing drum or other surfaces of the vehicle in between jobs and at the end of the shift.
- Chip out concrete accumulations inside mixing drums.



### Ways to prevent injuries

Reconfigure water tanks and other vehicle equipment to eliminate the need to climb onto vehicle equipment and minimize ladder use.



Use an elevated platform with safe stairways and guardrails to reach upper parts of vehicles during washing and inspecting tasks.

A “slump” meter was located so the driver can check the condition of the concrete from ground level.



If workers must climb onto vehicles:

- Always use handholds and stepping surfaces designed specifically for climbing and standing.
- Maintain ladders and other structures.
- Train workers to follow basic safety rules for ladder use.
- Make sure stepping surfaces and shoes are slip-resistant.

