

WORKING OVER/ADJACENT TO WATER

810

I. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for ensuring that all work performed over or adjacent to water is conducted in a safe manner. Work where the employee is required to be over or adjacent to water shall be accomplished only after all potential hazards have been identified, proper equipment is available and employees have been adequately trained to perform the necessary work.

II. REQUIREMENTS

A. Minimum Equipment:

1. All employees working over or near water, where the danger of drowning exists, shall wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets or buoyant work vests.
2. Ring buoys with a minimum of 90 feet of line must be provided and made readily available for rescue operations. Distance between ring buoys may not exceed 200 feet.
3. A minimum of one lifesaving skiff shall be provided and made readily available for rescue operations.

B. Equipment Inspections:

Prior to and after each use, the life jacket or buoyant vest must be inspected for damage which may alter their performance.

C. Elevated Work Over Water:

1. Platforms/ladders as specified in "Elevated Work" shall be utilized when possible.
2. Safety body harness and lanyards as specified in the elevated work section of this manual shall be utilized when working four feet above or over water.
3. A safety system as specified in "Fall Protection" shall be utilized when working 25 feet or above over water.

III. REFERENCE

OSHA standard:

- *1926.106: Working over or near water