Revised OHS regulations on temporary stairs at construction sites take effect Jan 1



Changes to Ontario Temporary Stairs at Construction Sites Rules

Current Rule

Stairs must be installed before construction of a building or structure that will be at least 2 storeys when it's finished

As construction of a building or structure progresses, permanent or temporary stairs must be installed up to: (a) the uppermost work level; or (b) if stairs would interfere with work on the uppermost work level, no more than 2 storeys or 9 metres below the uppermost work level, whichever is shorter

The above installed-up-to requirement doesn't apply to: (a) a part of a building or structure in which only the structural steel beams or columns are erected; or (b) a structure to which a permanent ladder is attached before the structure is raised into position

New Rule (changes in bold face)

Stairs must be installed before construction of **any** building or structure regardless of how many storeys it will be when it's finished

As construction of a building or structure progresses, permanent or temporary stairs must be installed **from the lowest level, including the basement**, up to: (a) the uppermost work level; or (b) if stairs would interfere with work on the uppermost work level, no more than 2 storeys or 9 metres below the uppermost work level, whichever is shorter

The above installed-up-to requirement doesn't apply to: (a) a part of a building or structure in which only the structural steel beams or columns are erected; (b) a structure to which a permanent ladder is attached before the structure is raised into position; or (c) a part of a building or structure in which formwork or falsework is erected to a suspended slab