

SECTION XII: LADDER SAFETY POLICY

Objective:

- To ensure the safe use of A-frame ladders in all company operations and to prevent accidents and injuries associated with ladder usage.

Scope:

- This policy applies to all employees who use A-frame ladders for work-related tasks at Nth Degree. Only employees of Nth Degree and individuals directly hired by Nth Degree are authorized to use ladders. No other individuals or subcontractors are permitted to use ladders.

Responsibilities:

- Management: Ensure that all ladders are maintained in good condition and that employees are trained in ladder safety.
- Director of Safety: Develop and update the ladder safety policy in accordance with OSHA standards. Conduct regular safety inspections and audits.
- Employees: Follow all guidelines and procedures outlined in this policy. Report any damaged or defective ladders to management immediately.

Ladder Selection and Inspection:

- Only use ladders that are appropriate for the task and that meet OSHA standards for load capacity and height.
- Inspect ladders before each use for any defects, such as broken or missing rungs, steps, or rails. Do not use damaged ladders.
- Do not paint ladders, as this may conceal defects.

Ladder Setup and Use:

- Set up A-frame ladders on a stable and level surface. Ensure that the spreaders or locking devices are fully engaged.
- Maintain three points of contact (two hands and one foot, or two feet and one hand) always when climbing or descending a ladder.
- Do not exceed the maximum load capacity or stand on the top cap or the step below the top cap of an A-frame ladder.

- Face the ladder when climbing up or down, and keep your body centered between the side rails.
- Do not move, shift, or extend ladders while in use.

Training:

- Provide all employees who use ladders with training on proper selection, inspection, setup, and safe use of ladders.
- Conduct refresher training as needed or when there are changes in job assignments or equipment.

Accident Reporting and Investigation:

- Report any accidents or incidents involving ladder use to the Director of Safety immediately.
- Investigate all ladder-related accidents to determine the cause and implement corrective actions to prevent recurrence.

Review and Update:

- The ladder safety policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to ensure alignment with current OSHA standards and best practices.