OSHRC Mandates Fall Protections For Road Work But Leaves Methods Open

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Jim Sullivan was quoted in *Inside OSHA* discussing a new decision by the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (OSHRC) that road construction companies must adopt fall-protection measures for employees working from the backs of moving vehicles. However, the commission split on how Roadsafe -- and by implication other road construction companies --should attempt to abate the hazard, leaving an opening for employers to decide for themselves what types of safety equipment could best protect workers from falling. Jim said that split "creates more questions" for employers who will now have to decide whether to make potentially costly equipment purchases or opt for a less-expensive abatement strategy that might not pass muster with the commission. "Will this change the way people do this? Will everybody have to go out and buy one of these specialized trailers who are in the industry?"

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