

# SONOCO *Near Miss!*



Date: November 2, 2020

Activity: Working at heights

The following is an actual story of a real person's experience offshore:

## **What Happened:**

John Doe started working offshore at 19 years old. After a short 2 years of experience, he nearly had a life-changing accident.

He was working on the third deck on the outside of a structure that was rigged with scaffolding for a blasting and painting project. He was tied off to the railing. His cousin, who was working on the same project, called him for lunch.

Doe started making his way around the building. He temporarily unclipped his fall protection and took a small leap – about a foot and a half – to some adjacent scaffolding. His footing slipped on a wet and oily surface.

Fortunately, he was able to grab onto a traverse brace, and there were toe boards in place to prevent his rolling off the scaffold. Otherwise, he would have fallen 30 feet to the platform deck.

## **Why it Happened:**

- Employee was in a hurry and took a shortcut
- Employee disregarded use of provided safety equipment

## **Corrective Actions:**

Folks, this really points out why SONOCO insists that its employees just DON'T work at heights. Period. We're not trained for it. Our work doesn't call for it. And we just don't have the experience or expertise for it. Let's keep both feet on the ground, shall we? Thanks for staying safe.

