

(Effective October 1, 2020)

WAC 296-880-40050 Safety watch system requirements. Safety watch systems and their use must conform to the following provisions:

(1) When one employee is conducting any repair work or servicing equipment on a low pitch roof, not within six feet of the edge, and where exposure to falls is infrequent (not on a predictable and regular basis), employers are allowed to use a safety watch system.

(2) The employer must ensure the safety watch system meets the following requirements:

(a) There can only be two people on the roof while the safety watch system is being used: One employee acting as the safety watch and one employee engaged in the repair work or servicing equipment;

(b) The employee performing the repair work or service must comply promptly with fall hazard warnings from the safety watch;

(c) Mechanical equipment is not used; and

(d) The safety watch system is not used when weather conditions create additional hazards.

(3) The employer must ensure the employee acting as the safety watch meets all of the following:

(a) Is a competent person as defined in WAC 296-880-095;

(b) Is trained in the requirements of this section;

(c) Has full control over the work as it relates to fall protection;

(d) Has a clear, unobstructed view of the worker;

(e) Is able to maintain normal voice communication; and

(f) Performs no other duties while acting as the safety watch.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060, and chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 20-12-091, § 296-880-40050, filed 6/2/20, effective 10/1/20.]