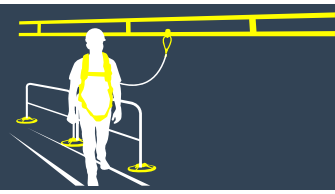
SKYLIGHT GUARDS



Industrial and commercial skylights have long been architectural features that do everything from illuminating dark areas in industrial facilities to adding beauty and elegance to indoor commercial spaces. While function and beauty are important elements in building design, without proper guarding skylights can pose a serious fall hazard risk often resulting in injuries or fatalities. In fact, the hazard is so high that OSHA makes no distinction between an open hole and a skylight and mandates under federal law that all skylights must either be rated for fall protection in their initial design or they must be covered with a protective guard that will prevent a fall through the skylight.

Skylights come in a variety of shapes, sizes and configurations. To meet this variety, EDGE offers a wide range of protective guards that restore skylights back into OSHA compliance. Each guarding option comes with its own features and benefits to meet custom requirements often found on buildings.

SKYLIGHT SCREENS: ECONOMICAL

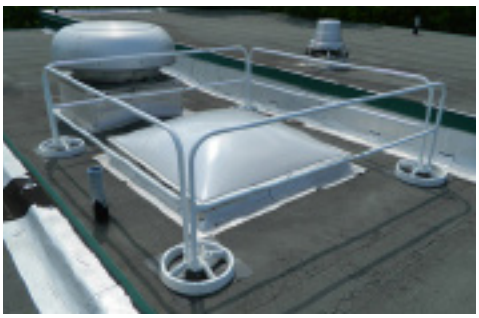
Skylight Screens often are the most economical solution to guarding skylights. They fit a variety of domed shaped skylights, don't take up any space on the roof and best of all do not require any penetrations to the roof, curb or skylight. Our unique compression-fit design locks the screen onto the aluminum frame of the skylight. Federal OSHA and CalOSHA compliant. Features:

- Fits skylights up to 61" wide x 120" long (up to 53" wide x 120 " long for CalOSHA)
- Compression fit—No penetrations
- Galvanized finish
- Perfect for high wind areas

SKYLIGHT GUARDS: QUICK INSTALLATION

Skylight Guards are one of the easiest install options we have. A completely welded guard that simply drops right over the skylight, tighten the bolts against the curb—that's it! This is a great option for small or large skylights and is available galvanized or a variety of colors to match the building roof. The small steel mesh screen even protects against large hail stones. Federal OSHA and CalOSHA compliant. Features:

- Fits skylights up to 90" wide x 120" long
- Quick installation
- No penetrations
- Variety of finishes
- Perfect for high wind areas



MOBILE RAILINGS: GREAT FOR LARGE JOBS

The EDGE Mobile Railing System is one of the most versatile products on the roof. Used primarily for perimeter fall protection, this free-standing, non-penetrating railing system can also be used for guarding skylights. This railing system can easily protect large banks of skylights or even less common flush-mounted, pyramid shaped or round skylights. Simply set the weighted base plates in position, insert and pin the railings and you've got a completely OSHA and CalOSHA compliant solution. Features:

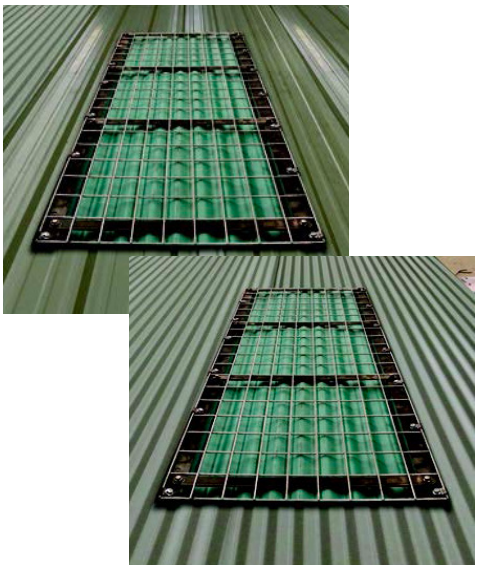
- Free-standing—No penetrations
- No size or shape limitations
- Variety of finishes available
- Perfect for high wind areas

At EDGE all of our products meet the appropriate standards. They are made in the USA by AWS Certified Welders under strict quality control standards.

SKYVIEW BARRIER: BLUE SKY VIEWS

The SkyView Barrier is one more unique way to guard a skylight. SkyView surrounds the skylight with a 42" high barrier that compression fits against the skylight curb. Many building owners and architects don't want a cage covering the skylight or anything impeding the view when people look up. SkyView fits the bill by keeping its structure away from the lens yet tall and strong enough to meet all applicable OSHA and CalOSHA standards. Features:

- Free-standing—No penetrations
- Fits skylights 120" wide x 120" long
- Galvanized finish
- Perfect for high wind areas



CORRUGATED AND R-PANEL SKYLIGHT SCREENS

Flush mounted skylights are found on many industrial buildings with corrugated or R-panel metal roofs. These types of skylights are particularly troublesome to guard because they typically are mounted flush with the roof deck meaning they can be hard to see when walking on the roof. Our Corrugated and R-Panel Skylight Screens completely cover the top of these skylights eliminating the hazard and restoring peace of mind to building owners or anyone accessing the roof for routine maintenance. OSHA and CalOSHA compliant. Features:

- Secured with self-sealing, gasketed hardware
- Fits dkylights up to 24" wide x 120" long
- Galvanized ginish
- Works on any pitch

STANDING SEAM SKYLIGHT SCREENS

Skylights on standing seam metal roofs are also typically flush mounted to the roof and can be hard to see. Our Standing Seam Skylight Screen completely covers the top of these skylights thereby eliminating the fall hazard. Our system attaches to the vertical ribs of the metal panel with a non-piercing, clamp-on attachment. OSHA and CalOSHA compliant. Features:

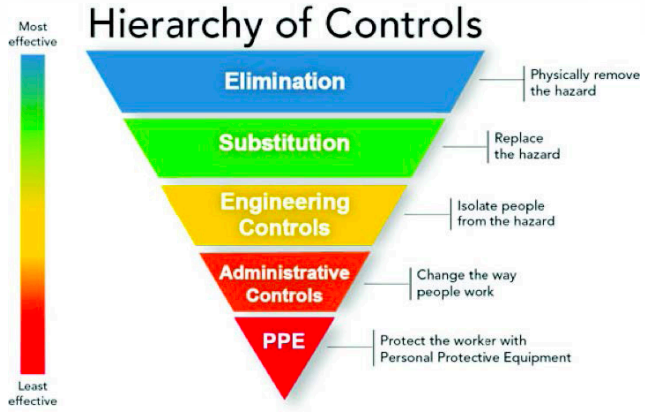
- Secured with non-piercing, metal seam clamps
- Galvanized finish
- Fits skylights up to 24" wide x 120" long
- Works on any pitch

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently issued this warning regarding skylights: Fatal falls and serious injuries may result from inadequate guarding and fall protection for work around skylights and roof and floor openings.

Controlling exposures to occupational hazards is the fundamental method of protecting workers. OSHA follows a Hierarchy of Controls to minimize hazards and ranks such control measure from lowest to highest effectiveness.

In the chart (at right) Elimination and Substitution are considered to be the most effective measures to ensure safety. However these two can be the most difficult and expensive options available. In the case of skylights, the skylight would be removed or replaced with a skylight rated for fall protection—two expensive and not always realistic options especially when multiple units are involved.

Engineering Controls are favored over Administrative Controls and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for controlling existing worker exposures in the workplace because they are designed to remove the hazard at the source, before it comes in contact with the worker. Well-designed Engineering Controls can be highly effective in protecting workers and will typically be independent of



worker interactions to provide this high level of protection. The initial cost of Engineering Controls can be higher than the cost of Administrative Controls or PPE, but over the longer term, operating costs are frequently lower, and in some instances, can provide a significant cost savings over on-going training, inspections, certification and compliance monitoring.

At EDGE, we offer companies common sense solutions that provide comprehensive Engineering Controls for guarding a wide range of skylights that are easy to install, cost effective solutions to separating the worker from the fall hazard.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GUARDING SKYLIGHTS

Federal OSHA and CalOSHA are specific on performance standards for railings, screens and covers for skylights. Paramount for all of them is that if a person falls onto the screen or cover they must not be allowed to break the lens of the skylight. In other words the screen or cover must not only support the weight of the person falling, it must also meet load requirements prescribed by OSHA. If using railings, the railing must meet load requirements of their own. Here are the pertinent standards from the www.OSHA.gov website by which skylight guarding is mandated by law and that all railings, covers and screens must comply.

1926.501(b)(4)(i) - The Duty to Provide Protection: Each employee on walking/working surfaces shall be protected from falling through holes (including skylights) more than 6 feet (1.8m) above lower levels, by personal fall arrest systems, covers, or guardrail systems erected around such holes.

1910.28(b)(3) – Screens and Covers Must Comply: Skylight screens shall be of such construction and mounting that they are capable of withstanding a load of at least 200 pounds applied perpendicularly at any one area on the screen. They shall also be of such construction and mounting that under ordinary loads or impacts, they will not deflect downward sufficiently to break the glass below them. The construction shall be of grillwork with openings not more than 4 inches long or of slatwork with openings not more than 2 inches wide with length unrestricted.

1926.502(b)(4) – Railings Must Comply: When the 200 pound (890 N) test load specified in paragraph (b)(3) of this section is applied in a downward direction, the top edge of the guardrail shall not deflect to a height less than 39 inches (1.0 m) above the walking/working level. Guardrail system components selected and constructed in accordance with the Appendix B to subpart M of this part will be deemed to meet this requirement.

CalOSHA Title 8, Chapter 4, Article 19, 1632, (3) – Screens and Covers Must Comply (California Standard Only): (3) Covers shall be capable of safely supporting the greater of 400 pounds or twice the weight of the employees, equipment and materials that may be imposed on any one square foot area of the cover at any time. Covers shall be secured in place to prevent accidental removal or displacement, and shall bear a pressure sensitized, painted, or stenciled sign with legible letters not less than one inch high, stating: "Opening—Do Not Remove." Markings of chalk or keel shall not be used.

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Let us do it for you. Call to get a quote for our professional installation services.

MADE IN USA OSHA COMPLIANT

EDGE FALL PROTECTION

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