



## **SHORTCUTS**

**Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission/  
Health & Safety Division**

**[www.awcc.state.ar.us](http://www.awcc.state.ar.us) 1-800-622-4472 fax: 501-683-3169  
[Health&Safety@awcc.state.ar.us](mailto:Health&Safety@awcc.state.ar.us)**

### **Taking Shortcuts Is Common Practice**

Everyone takes a shortcut at one time or another. Kids jump the fence instead of using the gate. Pedestrians cross streets between intersections. In many cases, a shortcut involves danger.

### **Break the Habit**

If you have the habit of taking dangerous shortcuts, break it. In construction work it can be deadly.

An ironworker who tried to cross an opening by swinging on reinforcing rods slipped and fell 20' onto a concrete floor. If he had taken a few moments to walk around the opening, he'd still be tying rods.

### **Avoid Dangerous Situations**

If you are told to go to a particular work area, the Company expects you to take the safe route, not the shorter, more hazardous one. The Company, however, can't be a guardian angel sitting on your shoulder. Avoiding dangerous shortcuts is up to you. And it's your responsibility to warn anyone else you see taking shortcuts.

### **What if there's no safe way to get there**

Let me know. And I'll see that the necessary means of access is provided.

### **Shortcuts Are More Dangerous at Heights**

Even though the job may take but a few minutes, don't climb on falsework or an improvised platform. Use the ladder or scaffold. And don't go from one elevation to another by climbing a column or sliding down a rope. Ladders, steps, and walkways are built to save your neck as well as convenience. Use them.

### **Remember**

The safe way isn't always the shortest way. But it's the surest way by far.

