Case Study – Extension Ladder

Brief Description of Accident
Two men were loading masonite onto a 9'5" platform they were building in a warehouse. While one man was measuring the platform deck, the other man started down a 12' aluminum extension ladder to the floor below. The ladder was not tied in or secured. The ladder slipped and the victim fell to the floor, suffering a fatal head injury. He was discovered by his co-worker, lying on the floor with his feet between rungs of the fallen ladder.

Inspection Results
OSHA conducted a fatality investigation following the incident, and as a result of its inspection, cited the employer.

The corrective action recommended by OSHA was for the employer to ensure that Portable ladders shall be tied, blocked, or otherwise secured to prevent displacement.