



PRESS RELEASE

Safety Professional Launches Patented Device To Stop Top Step Misuse

Not A Step blocks unsafe ladder top step use while turning it into an organized work surface.

MESA, AZ – Dr. Calvin Vernon, CSP, a safety professional with more than 15 years of industry experience, has introduced Not A Step, a patented ladder safety device that targets OSHA's Top ladder violations by physically blocking the top cap and step while providing a functional work surface.

Each year, ladder falls are linked to an estimated 164,000 injuries, business costs above 155 million dollars, and average claims above 14,000 dollars per incident. Training and warning labels help, but workers still climb higher for extra reach and stand on the top step or cap, increasing the risk of a catastrophic fall.

"Labels don't change behavior. After years of audits and incident investigations, it was clear we needed an engineered control that makes the right choice the easy choice. Not A Step removes the unsafe option entirely." - Dr. Calvin Vernon, CSP, Inventor

Not A Step attaches securely to the top cap of most standard A-frame step ladders and provides compartments for tools, fasteners, paint cans, and supplies that workers can load before they climb. Hands stay free and attention stays on the task. By occupying the top cap with a functional work surface, the device prevents workers from standing where they should not.

KEY FEATURES

- ▶ Physically blocks the top cap and step
- ▶ Universal fit for most standard A-frame step ladders
- ▶ U.S. utility and design patents issued
- ▶ Compartments for tools, fasteners, and supplies
- ▶ Quick, tool-free installation
- ▶ Durable injection-molded construction

Patent Protection

Not A Step is protected by U.S. Design Patent D1,079,060 S and U.S. Utility Patent 12,467,316 B1, covering the top cap cover, step guard, integrated tool holders, and attachment mechanism.

Availability

Manufacturing partnership discussions are in progress. Safety professionals, contractors, and ladder manufacturers who want to be notified when Not A Step becomes available can join the waitlist at thisisnotastep.com.

ABOUT DR. CALVIN VERNON

Dr. Calvin Vernon, CSP, is a Process Engineer and OSHA Special Government Employee with extensive experience across manufacturing, construction, and government sectors. The concept for Not A Step came directly from repeated job site observations of top-step violations that persisted despite comprehensive training programs.

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