



TOOLBOX TALK #21

Monday Morning Safety Reminders

Vol. 1 No. 21

FALL PROTECTION FUNDAMENTALS

In constructing pre-engineered or metal buildings, we face exposure to heights. There are volumes of regulations related to this and which comprise your formal training. Today's talk will serve as a reminder on some of the more basic aspects of fall protection.

Each jobsite has specific fall protection requirements that are conveyed in advance of beginning our work. Be sure you understand these requirements, and if you don't, ask for clarification. It's important to us that each of you to understand any and all jobsite-specific requirements.

In general, and at a minimum, each member of the crew should inspect your harness and lanyard on a daily basis for signs of wear or damage. If you see any defects, report them immediately. This is another safety device that must work with 100% effectiveness. You must wear your harness and be tied off if you are working six feet or higher from the ground. Any person working in a basket or boom lift must wear a harness and be tied off. Tie-off cables or anchor points must be in place before getting on a rafter or beam.

There are exceptions to tie-off requirements when working on properly designed and erected scaffolding with guardrails and toe boards, or when working on a deck that has approved perimeter guards installed. You will be advised when these exceptions are in place. Do not assume this is the case if you haven't been advised of such. If you aren't sure, ask before starting your work.

Don't get a false sense of security in working on a single or two-story project. Industry statistics show the number of "fall related injuries" is greater at these lower heights. The explanation for this is that many construction workers fail to respect what a 10-foot sudden fall can do to a human body. Don't lose your focus when you are off the ground.

Facilitator Notes: Discuss any relevant jobsite-specific fall protection guidelines and ask for questions. This is a subject matter that cannot adequately be addressed in 10-15 minutes, so emphasize that training and awareness are the keys to fall protection on a construction site. Use your time to remind your crew that working from heights is potentially hazardous, no matter how routine.

Additional Notes: _____

Crew Member Comments: _____

Presented By: _____ **Date/Time** _____

Attendees: _____

List additional attendees on back of sheet