



TOOLBOX TALK #51

Monday Morning Safety Reminders

Vol. 1 No. 51

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

The way you dress in the morning to come to the job site is important. We don't wear suits and ties in our line of work, but proper clothing and often times protective clothing is a part of being a professional in our industry.

Clothing is the first line of defense in preventing accidents. Shirts should fit comfortably enough for you to perform your tasks, but not so loose that shirtsleeves can get caught on sharp objects or machinery. Shirts are to remain on. Bare backs are not permitted both for safety and professional reasons. Short pants are not permitted, unless specifically allowed in limited instances wherein the tasks being performed will not pose a hazard. In cold and hot weather, cotton is the best material for absorbing perspiration and providing comfort against the elements.

Hard hats and eye protection are required at all times on the job site. Welders should wear flame resistant gauntlet gloves and long sleeve shirts to protect against heat, UV radiation and sparks. Welders should also wear fire-resistant aprons, coveralls and leggings.

Clothing should be kept free of grease that could ignite in the event of a fire or sparks. In cold weather, wear layered clothing so that you can remain comfortable throughout the day as temperatures rise. Gloves should be worn to protect you from injury, blisters and abrasions, but they should not impede your ability to work with tools or hardware. It is up to each of us to make sure we are properly protected without creating a new problem.

Be sure at all times that the clothes you are wearing are appropriate for the job. Loose fitting clothes, pins and other objects that can get caught on sharp objects can pose a hazard. Just remember, your clothes are an important part of your professionalism. Just as the businessman has a dress code, so do we.

Facilitator Notes: Reinforce that dress is a first line of defense against accidents. Note that protective clothing is a specific type of dress procedure related to individual tasks and these items are covered during training. But all personnel have responsibilities in dressing appropriately for the job. Use yourself or members of your crew as examples of proper attire. Talk about professionalism as it relates to safety and clothing.

Additional Notes: _____

Crew Member Comments: _____

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

Attendees: _____

List additional attendees on back of sheet