Tool Box Talks

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ACCIDENT PREVENTION

HOW YOU CAN HELP PREVENT ACCIDENTS

Like most people, you probably believe that when accidents happen, it was just bad luck or bad timing and they're just a fact of life. Or you may believe that accidents only happen to other people. The reality is, accidents happen to *everyone*, and often, they could have been prevented.

You can help do your part in preventing accidents by incorporating the following recommendations into your regular routine:

- **Pre-planned Safety:** Evaluate your daily routine. Is safety a huge factor in how you plan out your work routine? If it isn't, it should be. Incorporate safety measures into your everyday schedule – check your tools daily to ensure that they are in good condition, and that you have all the proper and/or required protective gear and equipment for whatever job function you will be performing that day.
- **Take corrective action:** If you notice unsafe conditions or activities, take corrective action yourself first. If it not within your authority or ability to do so, bring it to the attention of your supervisor. If you see someone acting in an unsafe manner, give them a friendly warning.
- **Don't engage in horseplay:** Regardless of age and intent, engaging in careless horseplay can quickly turn from "harmless fun" into a dangerous and potentially fatal situation, especially on construction sites. When working onsite, keep it strictly business at all times.
- **Follow the Rules:** Rules exist for a reason. Many times these rules have been tested or made as a result of prior accidents to prevent the same thing from happening again. Deviating from them, even by a little bit, could result in serious injury for yourself or your co-workers.
- **Communicate & Suggest:** If you see consistently unsafe habits forming, or you've figured out a better and safer way to perform a job, then by all means, speak up! If everyone communicates and works together to make sure that the workplace is safe for everyone, then there will be a lot less accidents!
- **Keep it clean:** No, we're not talking about when you whistle at that good-looking woman walking by. We're talking about the messy work area! A sloppy work area is not only unattractive, it's practically an invitation for someone to get hurt. Discarded trash and materials strewn about a jobsite can result in trips, falls, fire, or other potential hazards.
- **The Clothes Make the Man/Woman:** Dress appropriately for the job you are doing. Make sure that not only are you equipped with all the necessary protective equipment for your job function, but that you are also properly clothed; for example, don't wear overly-baggy clothes that may catch on something and cause you to trip and fall, or don't wear jewelry that may get tangled in machinery.

Remember, safety starts with YOU. Following these simple suggestions could save a life, so start today.

How this topic applies to this job: _____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Date: _____ Jobsite/Project #: _____
Supervisor/Foreman (print name): _____ Signature: _____

Attendees: Print Name/Signature (use back if necessary):

Name: _____	Signature: _____
Name: _____	Signature: _____
Name: _____	Signature: _____
Name: _____	Signature: _____
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