

Introduction: Employees on the construction jobsite should be trained and educated to recognize and correct hazards that could lead to injury, death and damage. Jobsites change daily, and these changes mean new hazards. Workers are exposed to falls, electrical shock, moving machinery, falling objects, traffic, confined spaces and trench collapses. New employees need training and experienced employees need a good reminder! Review the following hazard recognition and safety tips with employees:

BE SAFE!!!

WHAT ARE TOP CAUSES OF JOBSITE FATALITY?

- Falls from elevation
- Electrocution
- Struck-by
- Caught in-between

THESE HAZARDS ARE PRESENT ON NEARLY EVERY JOBSITE

- Falls from ladders, equipment, and platforms;
- Electrical hazards from wiring and power lines;
- Struck by hazards from falling objects, vehicles and moving machines;
- Caught in-between hazards like being trapped between a machine and a stationary object;
- Orthopedic injury resulting from heavy lifting;
- Slip and trip hazards on muddy jobsites, ice and wet machine steps.

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Know your company safety rules;
- Stay alert.
- Take time to survey your work area for hazards.
- Get plenty of rest before work. Sleep is needed!
- Stay away from alcohol, painkillers and illegal drugs.
- Wear your personal protective equipment.
- Inspect tools, equipment and machines before use.
- Do not use unsafe equipment.
- Fatigue, distraction & impairment slows your reflexes.
- Watch out for the safety of your coworkers.
- Don't do what you KNOW is unsafe!
- Stop work to review hazards present in your area.
- Before your shift begins, review safety concerns with your crew, your foreman, or by yourself.

LADDER SAFETY

- Set up ladders on a good, stable base.
- Extension ladders must be raised 3 feet above the landing edge.
- Don't use the top two steps of a step ladder.
- Secure ladders from tipping and kick out.

ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

- Use only hard-duty extension cords.
- Stay clear of exposed wiring.
- Survey for overhead lines when using ladders, bucket trucks, excavators and aerial lifts.

SLIP AND TRIP HAZARDS

- Scrape boots clean of excessive mud;
- Move slowly through muddy jobsites;
- Wet trucks, steps and trailers can be slick!

MOVING VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

- Wear high-visibility apparel on the jobsite;
- Wear an approved hard hat;
- Don't assume the operator can see you;
- Beware backing vehicles;
- Stay out from "in between" machines.

HEAVY LIFTING – PROTECT YOUR BACK

- Size up the load – can it be lifted safely?
- Can a machine help lift the load?
- Avoid yanking, shoving or jerking the object.

CONFINED SPACES

- Never enter a confined space without training;
- Always have a rescue plan, permit, ventilation fan and atmosphere monitoring before entry;
- Dial 911 whenever an emergency occurs in a confined space and do not enter unless trained.

TRENCH SAFETY

- Never enter a trench that has not been protected from collapse.
- Shoring, trench shield and sloping are the three most common ways to protect trench workers from collapse.

