TEXAS CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION WORKERS' COMP SAFETY GROUP

Toolbox Talks

A WEEKLY HANDY GUIDE FOR YOUR SAFETY MEETINGS

Preventing Falls From Facades

What this Toolbox Talk Covers:

- ✓ The "Dos" and "Don'ts" to prevent falls from facades.

Discussion Leader Duties:

- ✓ Demonstrate examples and proper safety guidelines to protect against falls when building or repairing facades.

Discussion Notes:

- ✓ Discuss the outcomes of the "Dos" and "Don'ts"

Do

- Use a body belt, full body harness, safety net and/or guardrail when working on facades at heights of six feet or more.
- When using a fall arrest system, ensure it is set up so workers cannot fall more than six feet.
- Use the shortest lanyard possible. The shorter the tie-off, the shorter the fall.
- Make sure you are attached to a secure anchorage.
- Inspect your equipment for defects such as fraying ropes or cracks in the hardware prior to use.
- Ensure guardrails are 42 inches high with a mid-rail.

Don't

- Tie-off to non-structured objects like vent pipes, light fixtures or electrical conduits.
- Unhook from fall protection when exposed to a fall greater than six feet.
- Allow more than one worker to tie-off to the same anchor.
- Work at heights in bad weather or on surfaces that are slippery or uneven, because doing so presents a fall risk.

Discussion questions:

1. Why should you avoid working at heights during bad weather?
2. How many workers can tie-off on the same anchor?
3. What are some examples of fall protection devices you should use when working on facades at heights of six feet or more?
4. Is it okay to unhook from fall protection when working at eight feet?

Meeting note:

Employee comments/concerns:_____

_____

Other safety issues to be addressed on the job/facility:_____

_____

Training record: Date:_____ Jobsite/Facility: _____

Trainer: _____ Title: _____

Employee name (print)	/ (signature)	Employee name (print)	/ (signature)
	/		/
	/		/
	/		/
	/		/
	/		/
	/		/

(Continue recording signatures on a separate sheet of paper)

Employee Quiz is provided on last page. Answers are: 1. (c), 2. (b), 3. (d), 4. (b), 5. (a)

Toolbox Talks safety information provided by Texas Mutual Insurance Company.

Preventing Falls From Facades

Hazards include:

Serious injury or death.

Smart Safety Rules

- *Fall Restraint* items are protection to keep workers from falling. *Fall Arrest* items stop workers that are falling. Use the correct fall restraint and arrest protection when working at a height of six feet or more.
- Anchorage points should be able to support 5,000 pounds per worker.
- Guardrails are not structured and should not be used as a tie-off or anchorage point. Attach your lanyard to a sound anchorage.
- Inspect fall protection equipment prior to use, and remove defective equipment from service.
- Place your anchorage directly above or behind your work area to avoid potential swing fall hazards.

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Employee Quiz

Topic: Preventing Falls From Facades

Employee Name: _____

Circle the correct answer below.

1. Why should you place your anchorage directly above or behind your work area?
   a. To ensure your lanyard will not trip you or other workers
   b. To keep your anchorage in view
   c. To avoid potential swing fall hazards
   d. All of the above

2. It is okay to use a water pipe as an anchorage.
   a. True
   b. False

3. How many pounds should an anchorage point support?
   a. 500
   b. 1,000
   c. 2,000
   d. 5,000

4. A worker's fall arrest system is set up to prevent him from falling more than 10 feet. Is this sufficient?
   a. Yes
   b. No
   c. It depends on how much he weighs
   d. Yes, if his anchorage point is secure

5. Fall protection devices should be used when working or repairing facades at heights of _____ feet or more.
   a. 6
   b. 10
   c. 15
   d. 25

Training record: Date: _____ Jobsite/Facility: _____
Trainer: _____ Title: _____