



## FALLS

In the United States deaths due to falls rank second only to motor vehicle deaths. In addition, over 13 million people suffer injuries due to slipping, tripping and falling each year. In other words, that is about 250 injuries in the time it takes for this safety Toolbox Educational Session.

Everyone is aware that a person could be killed in a lot of different ways on a construction job, yet over fifty percent of construction related deaths are due to falls!

Falls from elevated areas are usually serious, in fact, there is a 50% chance of death in any fall of 11 feet or more to a hard surface. To avoid becoming the next victim of a fall from an elevated area, we must stay alert and obey all required safety regulations.

Avoid elevated falls by protecting floor, roof and wall openings with adequate covers or proper guard rails, netting, a safety belt or harness, as required by OSHA.

Build scaffolding properly from the ground up--use all intended hardware and equipment--only scaffold grade planking is allowed--be smart avoid collapse by not overloading.

Same level falls are the most common--be extra cautious when walking on ice or snow, and floors that may be wet or slick from oil, grease, or chemical spills. Poor housekeeping on construction jobs is a major factor in fall accidents--keep scrap cleaned up daily--walkways and stairs swept clean and clear of power cords, hoses, cables, materials, and tools.

Always dispose of used equipment oil properly--the Environmental Protection Agency monitors and fines companies who violate this law. Oil spills not only contaminate our environment, but it also creates an immediate slipping condition, plus a further slip-fall potential caused by oil soaked shoe bottoms.

**YOUR ODDS OF A FALL ACCIDENT INCREASE WITH AGE. BE MORE CAREFUL EACH YEAR AND LOOK OUT FOR THOSE OLDER THAN YOU.**

Safety Recommendations: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Specific Topics: \_\_\_\_\_

M.S.D.S Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

Attended By:

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