



## SITE SAFETY MEETING - TOOL BOX TALK

# Electrical Safety in Construction

Electric shock is a primary cause of death on the construction site.

Electric shock can paralyze the heart, cause serious burns, and cause involuntary reactions that can lead to serious injuries.

### Observe these tips for working safely with electricity:

- Treat all wires as live wires.
- Never touch dangling wires, but report them to your supervisor.
- Unless you are a qualified electrician, do not attempt electrical repairs.
- Never use electrical equipment if your hands are wet or you are standing in water.
- If electrical equipment is sparking or smoking, turn the power off and report the condition to your supervisor.
- Report tripped circuits immediately. Tripped circuits may indicate an overload or short in the system.
- Never use electrical cords that have physical damage. Destroy damaged cords and discard!
- Never drag cords over sharp edges.
- Never allow equipment or traffic to run over cords. This can damage them internally.
- Verify that the extension cord has the designation "S" (e.g., SF, SJO, SJT, SJTO, etc.) in the cord marking to indicate that it is approved for hard service.
- Protect extension cords with bushings or fittings when passing them through holes that have jagged or sharp edges.



### REMEMBER...

- When it is used as intended, electricity is a labor saving service.
- When it is released in an uncontrolled manner, or when it is used with ignorance, it can injure, maim and kill.
- Always treat electricity with the respect it deserves.
- If you do not know what you are doing, leave electricity alone.

## Questions to start discussion

1. What are some of the safety practices to remember when working with or around electricity?
2. What should you do with a damaged electrical cord?
3. Who should you contact for repairs to damaged electrical wires?
4. What should you do if you do if you do if you are not qualified to work with electricity or electrical components?

### Meeting Notes:

Employee Comments / Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Safety issues to be addressed on the job: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Training Record:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Jobsite: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Name	Emp #	Signature	Employee Name	Emp #	Signature
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**Tool Box Talks** are employee safety meetings designed to serve as 15 minute on-site training sessions focused on key topics relative to your work.

Site superintendents or foremen are responsible for holding meetings each week usually during a morning break. This important segment of your general safety program encourages open discussion on the topic of the week and allows employees to share their experiences about accidents and safe or unsafe work practices. Recordkeeping is mandatory and all involved must sign off on each session.

Topics for your company could include: electrical safety, excavation and trenching safety, fall protection, scaffold safety, stairway and ladder safety, hazard communication, fire safety, personal protective equipment, tool safety, materials handling, etc.

Sample Tool Box Talks are provided compliments of the Safety Committee of the Hartford County Homebuilders Association. For more information on Tool Box Talks contact The HBA office 860 563-4212. *Tool Box Safety Talks* can be purchased from the National Association of Homebuilders 1-800 368-5242, [www.nahb.com](http://www.nahb.com) or may be available through your business insurance provider.

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**BUILD SAFELY – THINK SAFETY**