



SITE SAFETY MEETING - TOOL BOX TALK

PPE in Construction

PPE stands for personal protective equipment which we use in our daily work activities. OSHA gives employers responsibility for ensuring that employees wear appropriate PPE to reduce exposure to hazardous conditions such as falling objects, noise exposure, toxic atmospheres, etc. Personal protection is the main objective and each of us must follow our employer's safety requirements.

The first form of PPE is a hard hat. This safety device provides us with an impact resistant covering that protects the head. We know that all of our body functions are controlled by 'that gray matter' inside our head, so don't take chances -- protect your brain -- wear your hard hat at all times!



Many other forms of PPE are available to you. Hearing protection in the form of ear plugs or muffs reduces the amount of noise reaching your ear drums, thereby preserving your hearing. Respirators provide protection against toxic substances that might enter our bodies through our respiratory systems. Safety belts with lanyards and full body harnesses are types of personal fall protection, but they are effective only if we use them.

The eyes and face are another area that needs to be protected. There are many types and sizes of spectacles and goggles to protect the eyes and each has a special application. Be sure you read the manufacturer's instructions before wearing them and choose the right type. Face shields should be worn if potential danger exists from physical, chemical or radiation agents.

Personal Protective Equipment can be cumbersome, uncomfortable, hot, etc. and employees occasionally don't wear it even though they know they may be risking injury. Any worker who fails to wear required PPE should be disciplined.

Evaluate your work operations and define the hazards. Check with your supervisor for necessary PPE requirements and resolve to wear them. An ounce of protection is worth a pound or cure.

**KEEP YOUR PPE CLEAN AND IN GOOD WORKING ORDER.
REPLACE ANY DEFECTIVE GEAR IMMEDIATELY.**

***For more information on the required use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
refer to 29CFR1926 OSHA Construction Industry Regulations - Subpart E***

Questions to start discussion

1. Who is required to wear Personal Protective Equipment on the job?
2. What are three types of PPE being worn or used on your jobsite on a regular basis?
3. What are three types of PPE that should be worn or used on the job regularly and are not?
4. What are the exposures and the consequences for not wearing the necessary PPE on the job?

(Tool Box Talk 5-08); Copy Source of Information from: Toolboxtopics.com. Disclaimer: The information and suggestions contained in these bulletins are believed to be reliable. However, the authors of the topics and the owner of this web site accept no legal responsibility for the correctness, sufficiency, or completeness of such information or suggestions contained within this web site. This document is provided for information purposes only. It is not intended to be a substitute for individual legal counsel or advice on issues discussed within. Readers seeking resolution of specific legal issues or business concerns related to the captioned topic should consult their attorneys and/or insurance representatives or safety advisors.

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
---------------	-------	-----------	---------------	-------	-----------

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

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 or may be available through your business insurance provider.

BUILD SAFELY – THINK SAFETY