

Toolbox Talk



January 2020

Safe Attitudes Keep More Workers Injury-Free Than Safe Conditions

Did you know unsafe acts cause four times as many incidents and injuries as unsafe conditions. Why? Simple, the safety attitude, beliefs and behaviors each of us brings to the job site can either positively impact safety or lead to negative outcomes. It's your choice!

Daily, decisions are made on the work site that impact safety. How does your safety attitude and beliefs determine what would you do?

- You're several feet off the ground. Do you jump down to the ground or use a ladder?
- You're using a saw to rip a piece of wood. Do you hold it in your hand while cutting or do you use a saw horse?
- You're on a 12 foot ladder and have one last hole to drill. Do you move the ladder or overreach?

Each of us knows the proper way of doing a task, yet each of these scenarios played out in 2019. The employees chose the unsafe act and unfortunately were injured as a result of their decision.

As we begin the new year, the following are reminders to help you recognize unsafe acts or conditions.

Unsafe Acts

1. Unauthorized use or operation of equipment.
2. Failure to secure materials to prevent unexpected movement.
3. Working or operating equipment too fast.
4. Using defective tools or equipment.
5. Removing guards.
6. Improperly using tools or equipment.
7. Servicing moving equipment.
8. Riding equipment not designed for passengers.
9. Horseplay.
10. Failure to wear the proper personal protective equipment.

Unsafe Conditions

1. Lack of proper guards.
2. Lack of a proper warning system.
3. Poor housekeeping.
4. Unexpected movements.
5. Protruding objects such as nails or wires.
6. Improper clearance or congestion at passageways.
7. Poor placement, storage or arrangement of materials.
8. Hazardous tools, equipment or materials.
9. Poor lighting, high noise levels.
10. Improper personal attire.



You play an important role in ensuring a safe workplace for everyone. If you observe unsafe job site behavior or work conditions, notify your client supervisor and local Tradesmen office immediately.

Call the Tradesmen Safety Hotline * 844-40B-SAFE Stop. Call. Save a Life.

Recommendations are advisory in nature, informational in content, and intended to assist employees in assessing the client job site and task at hand.

I have read & understand the training provided. If I have any questions about the training I will notify my Tradesmen representative.

Employee Name: _____ Employee ID _____ Date: _____

Project: _____ Time Spent: _____