



DROPPED OBJECTS

INTRODUCTION

Dropped objects are a significant safety hazard in the workplace that may result in serious injury or fatality and damage to property and equipment on the job site. For these reasons, it is essential to implement best practices for preventing dropped objects. This toolbox talk aims to raise awareness of the hazards of dropped objects on work sites and how they can be prevented.

PREVENTION

1 USE PHYSICAL CONTROL METHODS

Physical controls include guardrails, tool lanyards, toe guards, barrier and netting.

2 SELECT THE CORRECT EQUIPMENT/ TOOL FOR THE JOB

Make sure the right tools and equipment are used for the task. Using the incorrect tool or equipment can increase the risk of an incident.

3 ESTABLISH CLEAR COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

Communicate with fellow workers to alert everyone of potential hazards when working from height. Ensure to coordinate tasks to prevent other workers from being in the line of fire.

4 BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

Survey your work area for potential dropped object hazards. Keep an eye out for objects that could fall from heights.

5 ALWAYS REPORT INCIDENTS OR NEAR MISSES

Reporting incidents and near-misses can help to identify areas of concern and help develop controls to prevent future incidents.

6 PRACTICE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

Maintain a tidy and well-organized work area. Ensure that tools and equipment are properly stored and secured when not in use.

CONCLUSION

Dropped object prevention is essential to workplace safety. By implementing these tips and best practices, we can all work together to minimize the risk of dropped objects and strengthen our safety culture.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can we prevent dropped object incidents at our site?
2. When working in your job area today, look for hazards associated with dropped objects. Take action and report it to your supervisor.
3. How can you promote dropped object prevention in the workplace and encourage your colleagues to take it seriously?

