

TOOLBOX TALK, September 3rd, 2024.

Suggestion Box

We've added a suggestion box to fsstools.com. Please give us your suggestions, either anonymously or with your name attached. Your ideas and suggestions can help us improve.

Refocusing after a long weekend:

It's always nice to take a break, but when the break is over it's important to quickly regain your focus. Clear heads and clear intentions are part of staying safe at work. So welcome yourself back to work by clearing your mind and focusing on the work ahead.

Fall Protection Planning:

This week we had a case where two workers went into a situation where fall protection was needed, and a plan had been completed but they had not read the plan. As a result, they executed a plan that was not approved and not completely safe.

A couple of things that came out of the investigation:

- The foreman for the job was changed. There was an approved fall protection plan that was created with the original foreman, but the new foreman didn't get a pass down from the old foreman about the fall protection plan.
- The new foreman didn't seek out and read the plan and did not pass the details of the plan down to the workers.
- The workers performing the task got a pass down from other crew members who had read and followed the plan, but details of the plan were left out. The workers who got the pass down from their co-workers did not read and sign the approved plan before starting work.

As a result of this lapse in communication workers were needlessly exposed to a fall hazard. Though the workers were generally safe and did consider their personal safety, they were briefly exposed to a fall hazard, primarily because they didn't know what the plan was and how the plan protected them from hazards.

Before putting on fall protection gear it is your responsibility to know and follow the approved fall protection plan and to assure fall protection equipment is installed correctly, and your personal gear (harness) is inspected and safe.

There's a lot riding on good fall protection planning and understanding how you will be safe when you're working at heights.

What do you need to do before getting into fall protection?

Who should you ask if you're not sure how the plan is supposed to work?

Innovation Rewards:

Fred Shearer and Sons is working to drive innovation in the industry, and what better way than to ask you for help. We offer \$25.00 gift cards for innovations that help us get our work done faster and safer, and at the end of the year the Safety Committee will choose one innovator to receive a \$250.00 gift card. When you have a great idea, present it to your foreman, and if we use it, you're in line for the big prize.

