

Tools for Life – Weekly Health & Safety Meeting



Home Healthy - Home Safe

Date: May 2-6, 2022

Safety Standup Week #1

Fall Prevention Week – National Safety Stand Up

Apollo is celebrating National Safety Stand-Down week which raises awareness for fall hazards in construction. Fatalities caused by falls from elevation is a leading cause of death (after suicides) to construction workers. These deaths are preventable! Over the next week we will review fall hazards and controls to help raise awareness at all Apollo job sites.

Tale of Two Falls –

In the fall of 2000, an employee fell 24 feet through a 2X4 roof penetration he had just cut. No one ever plans to fall (especially through a hole they just cut) but we know when projects and/or life get busy our minds can wander and get distracted. This is why it is important to always plan ahead of time, provide the right equipment for the job to be completed safely, and ensure affected employees are trained. The employee was lucky he didn't die, however the total pain and suffering for the years to follow was a price all in its own. This fall was a turning point for Apollo and help start the journey of molding the safety culture you all uphold today.

Fast forward to summer 2016. An Apollo Inc. employee was pulling forms off the top of a 30 foot retaining wall. Just the week before he had been coached by his supervisor in the correct use of his Self Retracting Lifeline. So when the pry bar he was using to pull forms off the top of the wall became a catapult and launched him over the edge, his SLR worked beautifully; it kept him from falling all the way to the ground and he was able to self rescue. In his own words "I went home safe and made it to my son's baseball game that night".

This tale of two falls illustrates the effectiveness of fall protection in preventing death and needless pain and suffering. In the next few days we will review fall hazards and fall protection controls and celebrate the falls we have prevented, and discuss one of the leading causes of death in our industry.

HEALTH OR SAFETY REMINDER: Always consult your Safety Professional concerning fall protection questions. Home Healthy,! Home Safe!

Discussion Points / Question:

1. Does anyone have a personal story about fall protection to share?
2. At what height should fall protection be provided to workers in construction? (6 ft, unless in Wa then 4ft)
3. Who is mostly responsible for developing a fall prevention plan on the job site? (employer)