

Tools for Life – Weekly Health & Safety Meeting



Home Healthy - Home Safe

Date: May 2-6, 2022

Safety Standup Week #3

Plan. Provide. Train

Plan

Fall protection is required in some states/projects as low as 4 feet, whereas in other states the trigger height for fall protection can be 6 feet. However, we must always protect our employees from falls whenever possible, regardless of height. The next step after identification is **PLANNING**. We must determine what degree of protection is required. Begin by planning how the project will be completed, what jobs will be involved, where hazards can be averted, and what safety equipment will be required for each task. Like all hazards, the first step in planning should take into consideration what hazards can be eliminated, or tasks can be modified to completely mitigate risk. Once you create a plan, document the plan by completing a written Fall Protection Plan using AISH 11 in the Apollo Safety Manual. You must review it and train to it with the employees who will be affected. It is up to leaders to plan projects well ahead of time to account for work at heights to accurately anticipate any additional costs, such as equipment, PPE, manhours, and project access.

When new personnel arrive on the jobsite, they need to be trained on the Fall Protection Plan if they are working in affected areas. Keep in mind that each site's Fall Protection Plan is unique and there may be multiple per site.

Provide

We must provide employees the right tool for the job and safe equipment to use. Using the right ladder or scaffold helps to get the job done safely. For roof work, if workers use personal fall arrest systems (PFAS), provide a harness, lanyard and anchor for each worker who needs to tie off. Make sure the Personal Fall Arrest System fits and is regularly inspect for safe use.

Train Affected Workers

Ever seen a first-year apprentice put on a harness too loosely? Every affected worker should be trained on proper inspection, set-up and safe use of equipment. When using fall protection equipment it is critical that each employee is trained and demonstrates competency for evaluating fall hazards, inspecting the equipment, and using the equipment in safe and correct manner.

HEALTH OR SAFETY REMINDER: When conditions change, we must stop and reevaluate work and hazards. Most incidents and near misses follow a change in conditions.

Discussion Points / Question:

1. Does your jobsite have a Fall Protection Plan? Are you trained on it?
2. What is the trigger height for fall protection requirements on your project?
3. What are some tools being used on your project to make it safe for elevated work?