



TOOLBOX TALKS

Electrical Safety—Toolbox Talk # 1

Electrical Safety

Electric shock from equipment installations or tool use rose from 5.7% of the total construction fatal injuries in 2015 to 12.7 in the first quarter of 2016.

How to assist a worker being shocked:

- Ensure your own safety, by making the scene is safe
- If possible, and if it is safe to do so, shut off the source of electricity.
- Call 911 with explicit address & inform them the source of the current such as a downed pole, etc. Do not hang up on the 911 operator until told to do so.
- If you cannot shut off the source of electricity, attempt to remove the worker from the electric line by using a non-conducting source such as a PVC pole or a dry piece of lumber without placing yourself at risk of electrocution.



- High voltage lines will radiate current through the ground. Do not risk your own life.
- Ensure the current is off and the area is safe, if possible, start CPR, use an AED, and keep the victim warm until EMS arrives.
- Conduct a Lessons Learned and share.

In 2015, 8.6% of construction fatalities were electrocutions



OSHA and our construction industry partners, such as the Mid-Atlantic Construction Safety Council, have initiated a “Focus Four Hazards” campaign throughout OSHA’s Region III’s jurisdiction. The goal of this campaign is to raise awareness in the recognition, evaluation, and control of these hazards. Focus Four Hazards account for the vast majority of injuries and fatalities in the construction industry.

