



TOOLBOX TALKS

Focus Four Struck-By Toolbox Talk #3

Head Protection

The hard hat is one of the oldest, widely used, and most important pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) on the job. However, the hard hat is unable to do its job when it is not properly worn, maintained, and replaced when needed.

Here is an Example

Bob and his crew were putting a new roof on a house. During his lunch break, Bob was on the ground eating a sandwich when a falling hammer struck his hard hat. Although he experienced pain and discomfort, Bob did not require hospital admission.

Could this incident have been avoided?

Do you work at a job that requires you to wear a hard hat?

Do you wear a hard hat?



Warnings and Precautions

- ◆ NEVER DRILL HOLES IN THE HARD HAT SHELL FOR VENTILATION PURPOSES.
- ◆ ALWAYS WEAR YOUR HARDHAT WITH THE BILL FACING FORWARD.
- ◆ ALWAYS AVOID CONTACT BETWEEN THE HARD HAT AND ELECTRIC WIRES.
- ◆ NEVER USE A HARDHAT SUSPENSION THAT IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE WITH A PARTICULAR SHELL, OR ONE THAT IS MADE BY A DIFFERENT MANUFACTURER.
- ◆ NEVER CARRY OR WEAR ANYTHING INSIDE OF YOUR HARD HAT BETWEEN THE SUSPENSION AND THE SHELL. A CLEARANCE MUST BE MAINTAINED BETWEEN THE HARD HAT AND SHELL AND THE WEARER'S HEAD FOR THE PROTECTION SYSTEM TO WORK PROPERLY.
- ◆ BALL CAP OR OTHER OBJECT MAY LIMIT THIS CLEARANCE AND SHOULD NOT BE WORN.
- ◆ ONLY WEAR PRODUCTS, SUCH AS WINTER LINERS AND SUNSHADES THAT ARE DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY TO WORK IN CONJUNCTION WITH HARD HATS. BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USE.



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. As noted below, the Focus Four Hazards account for the vast majority of injuries and fatalities in the construction industry.

