

## TOOLBOX TALKS

# Fall Toolbox Talk # 5 Fall Protection Equipment Inspections

#### Ask the following questions and give time for answers

What are the hazards? Falls from heights due to damaged personal fall arrest systems What are the results? Broken bones, internal damage, death.

**DID YOU KNOW:** Among the fatal falls in construction investigated by the National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health's Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) program, between 2004 and 2014, 58.5% of the decedents had no PFAS present; 14.6% had PFAS, but did not use; and another 7.3% used PFAS, but the PFAS failed.

#### How do we prevent these results?

**Inspect your personal fall arrest system prior to use.** On a regular basis not to exceed one year (or more frequently if required by manufacturer's instructions) by a Competent Person to verify that the equipment is safe for use. Some manufacturers recommend every 6 months. Your life depends on it.

**Take damaged equipment out of service:** If there have been alteration; if there is an absence of parts, if there is evidence of defects, damage to or improper function of mechanical devices and connectors. Also look for any other condition that calls to question the suitability of the equipment for its intended purpose.

**Know what to look for**: Fraying, un-splicing, kinking, knotting, roping, broken or pulled stitches, excessive elongation, chemical exposure, excessive soiling, abrasions, alterations, needed or excessive lubrication, excessive aging, excessive wear.

Personal Fall Arrest Systems are an important element of fall protection; <u>yet the primary</u> goal on construction <u>sites</u> should be to eliminate fall hazards altogether.

Source: MSA Safety Booklet



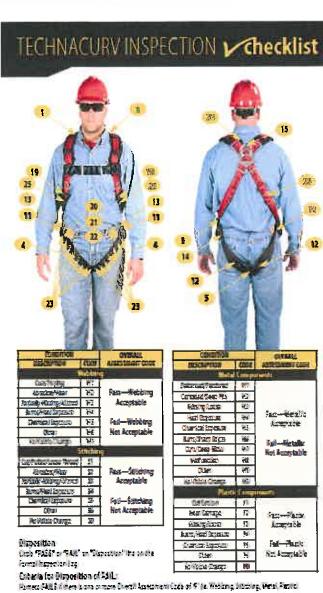




# TOOLBOX TALKS

### Fall Toolbox Talk # 5

### **Fall Protection Equipment Inspections** (continued)



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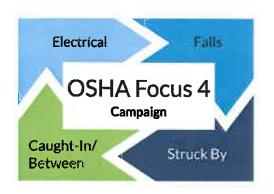
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This information has been developed by OSHA and its partners with the intent to assist employers, workers, and others as they strive to improve workplace health and safety. This information must be understood as a tool for addressing workplace hazards, rather than an exhaustive statement of an employer's legal obligations, which are defined by statute, regulations, and standards.





## TOOLBOX TALKS

#### Fall Toolbox Talk # 5

Fall Protection Equipment Inspections (continued)



- User Inspection
- 1. Webbing
- 2. Metal components
- 3. Stitching
- 4. D-Rings
- 5. Labels





\*\*Should be performed daily by user and take 2-3 minutes



- Lanyards
- 1. Snap Hooks
- 2. Shock absorbers
- 3. Adjustment parts
- 4. Load Indicators
- 5. Labels







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