



# SAFETY TAILGATE MEETING

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Company	Concrete North, Inc.	Project	22-028 ARC		
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## TRENCHING & EXCAVATION

### INTRODUCTION

Every year there are about 40 workers who die in trench related accidents. More than 1,000 are injured. **What do you feel is the greatest trench hazard?**

**Answer:** Trench Cave-ins. Have you every witnessed a cave in? What happened?

**In this meeting, we will discuss:**

#### (1) TRENCH HAZARDS

#### (2) PROTECTIVE SYSTEMS

#### (3) SAFE TRENCH WORK PRACTICES

### TRENCH HAZARDS

**CAVE-INS:** One cubic yard of soil can weigh 3,000 pounds, about the weight of a small car. We prevent cave-ins by using protective systems and managing surcharges at the top of the trench.

**UNDERGROUND UTILITES:** Before beginning any dig the area must be surveyed. Notify your particular state agency. The depth must also be determined. This can be done by "pot-holing". Use a spotter when working around any utility.

**HAZARDOUS ATMOSPHERES:** When a trench is 4' or deeper and it contains, or has the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere, the trench must be treated as a confined space.

**OTHER HAZARDS:** There are many other hazards such as falling personnel or equipment. **This is not an exhaustive list. All hazards must be evaluated.**

# PROTECTIVE SYSTEMS

**IF A TRENCH IS 5' OR MORE IN DEPTH, A PROTECTIVE SYSTEM IS REQUIRED.** The competent person is to determine the soil type and then choose a protective system to use. Options are:

**BENCHING / SLOPING:** This must be done according to soil type. For example: Type B soil is sloped at 1:1 and type C soil 1.5:1.

**SHORING or TRENCH SHIELD:** These must be installed per manufacturers instructions. No worker can be in the trench while they are being installed or removed. Always work within the confines of the protective system. Never leave it - even for a second!

**ENGINEERS APPROVAL:** Any trench 20' or more in depth must have a protective system approved and stamped by a Registered Professional Engineer.

## SAFE TRENCH WORK PRACTICES

**ACCESS / EGRESS:** A means of egress is required when a trench is 4' or more in depth. The egress must be within 25' of all workers in the trench.

**SPOILS & OTHER MATERIAL:** Must be kept at least 2' back from the top of the trench.

**INSPECTIONS:** A competent person is to inspect the trench each day prior to work beginning, after rain, or after other changes that could affect trench condition.

**BARRICADING:** No trench is to be left unprotected. All trenches are to be barricaded to warn other workers there is a trench. If in the street, a trench must be backfilled or trench plated before leaving for the day.

What other safe practices can you think of? Refer to the OSHA standard for a complete list.

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### Attendees Names

Daniel Mendoza

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### Attendees Signatures

*Daniel M*

*AV*

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## CONDUCTOR SIGNATURE

Daniel M

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