

# SAFETY TAILGATE MEETING

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Date	June 24, 2024	Time	8:30 AM	Conductor	Jorge Salaiz

## HAND AND POWER TOOLS

### INTRODUCTION

It can be easy to overlook the dangers of tools we use every day. They can cause lacerations, crushing injuries, and even amputations. While experience can make a tool easier to use, there is DANGER when we take the tool for granted.

#### Group Discussion:

- Have you ever experienced or seen a an injury with a hand or power tool?
- What happened?
- Why did it happen?
- What can we learn from it?

In this meeting, we will discuss:

(1) INSPECTING TOOLS

- (2) USING TOOLS
- (3) SPECIFIC TOOLS WE USE

**INSPECTING TOOLS** 

Tools must be inspected before each use, including:

- Ensure tools are clean and in good repair.
- Check that guards and safety devices are in place.
- Check for cracks and other damage to the tool.
- If powered, check the cord insulation and prongs on the plug end.
- Ensure portable power tools such as drills and saws are grounded or double insulated.
- Check that any blades are sharp. Dull blades should be replaced.

Remove damaged or unsafe tools from service and notify your supervisor.

### **USING TOOLS**

Eye Protection: Whether using a hand or a power tool, approved eye protection must be worn.

For example: While a nail gun may be more dangerous than using a hammer, hundreds of workers have suffered severe eye damage from nails that ricochet while using a hemmer.

Hearing Protection is required when exceeding 85 decibals.

Gloves can be worn. However, not if there is potential of entanglement with a blade, pinch point, or in any other way.

Follow the Manufacturers Instructions: Some of us cringe at reading instructions. However, never use a tool or piece of equipment without understanding the manufacturer's instructions.

For example: Does the saw you use require one or two hands to hold it? What does the manufacturer say?

#### Important:

- (1) Never use a tool unless you are trained.
- (2) Never disable a guard or safety device.
- (3) Only use a tool for its intended purpose.

### **SPECIFIC TOOLS WE USE**

#### Group Discussion:

- What hand and power tools are we currently using?
- What hazards and potential injuries exist with them?
- What are specific safe practices for using our hand and power tools?



# **CONDUCTOR SIGNATURE**



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