

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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Job Name _____

Date _____

ELECTRICAL HAZARDS AND GROUNDING SAFETY

Electricity provides energy to run all the electrical components we need on a construction site: power tools, machines, lighting, and some equipment. Electricity can also create hazards when an electrical system is not grounded properly. If a person's body mistakenly becomes part of the electric circuit, an electric shock results that could cause severe injuries and death. To minimize electrical hazards, you need to consider the equipment you're using, its installation, the protective measures in place, your work environment, and work practices.

Equipment and Installation: One of the most common OSHA electrical violations is improper grounding of equipment and circuitry. You need to recognize that an improperly grounded electrical system is a hazard. When using portable electrical tools, make sure they are double-insulated or equipped with a 3-prong plug that can plug into a properly grounded 3-wire receptacle. Inspect all electrical equipment before each use and look for defects, cracks, fraying, and wear on the case and power cord. Report defective electrical tools and equipment to your supervisor immediately.

Protective Measures: A Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) is an electrical device used to make sure you're protected from ground faults. Simply put, it can be an inexpensive lifesaver. It's important to plug tools and equipment into an electrical receptacle that is protected by a GFCI. It monitors the current between the two wires in the circuit; if a ground fault or leak is detected, the GFCI switches off the current and protects you from a dangerous shock. An Assured Equipment Grounding Conductor Program (AEGCP) can be used in place of GFCIs. The program involves a competent person maintaining written records and engaging in testing and visual inspections of tools.

Safe Work Practices and Environment: Most electrical accidents are preventable through safe work practices. Never make an electrical repair yourself. Leave it to a qualified and trained electrician. Always de-energize electrical equipment before inspection or maintenance. Never remove a ground prong from an extension cord or tool. Do not attempt to operate electric power tools in rainy, wet, or damp spaces. Store all electrical equipment and tools in a dry place. Always wear the necessary personal protective equipment.

Electricity is powerful, but it's no match for workers empowered with knowledge and safety training.

SAFETY REMINDER

**When a GFCI trips, don't think of it as an inconvenience.
Consider yourself fortunate that protective measures are
in place to avoid a serious injury or fatal shock.**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

S.A.F.E. Cards® planned for this week _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____

Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____

These instructions do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations.