

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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Job Name _____ Date _____

PARTNERS IN SAFETY: YOUR CO-WORKERS AND YOU

When you stop to watch all the activity on a construction site, you see workers engaged in lots of different tasks. Some are moving materials and supplies; others operate cranes and swing loads overhead; still others are hammering, digging, wiring, or supervising and directing work. Because all these activities take place in a relatively small area, one person's actions can affect the safety of many other people.

In many ways, your co-worker's safety is linked to your safety. What your co-worker is doing while working above, can affect you if you're below. If a co-worker puts a damaged or defective tool back in the gang box one day, it affects you the next day. And whatever hazardous chemicals you're handling (or mishandling) can have an effect on those working in the surrounding area.

Even though we're all working on different tasks, everyone has the same goal: completing the job and doing it safely. Keep in mind that every day in the U.S., 1300 construction workers go home injured or ill, and 3 don't go home at all. Safety in the construction industry is **everyone's responsibility**, and it's important that we look out for each other to reduce the number of accidents, near misses, injuries and fatalities on the job.

In addition to considering your own safety before you begin any task, get into the habit of thinking about the safety of those working around you. For instance, if you're grinding a piece of metal, you know you need to wear eye and face protection. But what about others who aren't protected from stray sparks? You wouldn't want a co-worker to turn the corner and get sprayed in the face with flying sparks. Consider repositioning your work or posting visible signs to avoid accidents and injuries.

Similarly, if you're a carpenter using a nail gun or powder-actuated tool, make sure you think about those who might be standing on the other side of the wall. It's possible that as you fire the tool, the fastener could strike a co-worker in the eye or cause a fatal puncture wound. Consider how your work might create dangers for others nearby and then take steps to reduce or eliminate those hazards.

Talk to your co-workers about hazard recognition. The person working next to you might point out a hazard that you have overlooked. Don't be offended—be thankful that someone is looking out for you.

Immediately report to your supervisor any co-worker who is reckless or who is endangering the safety of others. Everyone wants to go home safe at the end of the day.

SAFETY REMINDER

**If you're wearing PPE to do your job safely,
those around you may need to wear the same PPE.
Alert bystanders before they are exposed to any dangers.**

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.