TOOL BOX TALKS

Lifelines

Construction Slip, Trip and Fall Prevention

Falls from elevated work surfaces account for a majority of dangerous falls. Lifelines are a great fall protection option for roofers, carpenters, framers and gutter/siding crews. Refer to the fall protection owner's manual and OSHA standards before setting up a lifeline.

Tool Box Tips

1. The two main types of lifeline use are horizontal and vertical.

2. Read the directions before using fall protection devices.

3. Inspect each lifeline component before use.

   - Check webbing and rope for damaged fibers, cuts, frayed edges and loose stitches.
   - Check hardware for distortions, cracks, bends, breaks, sharp edges and unusual wear.
   - Snap hooks and approved carabineers must function freely and lock properly.
   - A competent person must inspect components regularly.

4. Lifelines are meant to prevent a fall. Slack should be out of the line at all times.

5. The anchorage must be above the user to prevent a swinging fall.

6. Make sure the rope grab is assembled correctly. If done wrong, the rope grab will not snag the rope.

7. Keep excess rope out of the way.

8. Take tension out of the lifeline and set the rope grab before you reach the fall edge.

9. Provide a rescue plan for anyone using fall protection.

10. Train employees whenever new or different equipment is used.

11. A restraint line prevents employees from reaching the leading fall edge.

Rope grabs pinch and hold the rope when activated.

Anchorages must support 5,000 pounds.

Use a shock-absorbing lanyard with lifelines only.

For more information:

www.worksafecenter.com   1.888.499.SAFE (7233)

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