



CLEVELAND INTEGRITY SERVICES, INC.

Monthly Safety Newsletter

July 1, 2015

Scaffolds and Fall Protection

Good scaffolds provide safe platforms on which to work. They take a lot of the risk out of working at heights, when they are used properly. There are different types of scaffolds, such as rolling scaffolds, swing stage suspended scaffolds, and tube and coupler or pole scaffolds. Do you know which kind we use on this jobsite? All scaffolds must be erected and dismantled by a competent person. Always consider fall protection when your work requires you to use scaffolding.

Guardrails and scaffolding go hand in hand. If you're working more than ten feet off the ground or floor, your scaffold platform must have guardrails that have top rails, mid rails, and toe boards. Occasionally it may be necessary to remove guardrails – to load or unload materials for example – however, be sure to replace them promptly. Guardrails and toe boards prevent workers on the scaffolding from falling, and also provide safety for ground-level employees who might otherwise get hit by falling tools and materials.

If you work on a suspended scaffold, you need to use a fall arrest system as protection against the failure of the scaffold or its components. Your fall arrest system will usually consist of a full body harness, lanyard, rope grab, independent vertical lifeline, and an independent anchorage for the lifeline.

- The full body harness is a system designed to spread the energy of a fall across the shoulders, thighs, and buttocks. A well-designed harness permits prolonged worker suspension after a fall without restricting blood flow. A poorly-designed harness can save your life in a fall, but might cause internal injuries while you're waiting to be pulled back up to safety.
• A lanyard connects the safety harness to the rope grab on the lifeline. Lanyards should be made of 5/8" nylon rope or nylon webbing.
• Rope grabs contain a cam device that locks onto a lifeline when there is a hard tug on the lanyard. Make sure that rope grabs are properly connected to lifelines so the cam will work correctly.
• Independent vertical lifelines should be used for each worker on the suspended scaffold. Do not use scaffold suspension lines as lifelines, and do not attach lifelines to any part of the scaffold.
• Anchorage points are independent points on structures where lifelines are securely attached. These points must be able to support a force of at least 5,000 pounds. Remember, your fall protection is only as good as its anchorage.

Proper fall protection is required for safe scaffold work. Whether you're on the scaffold all day, or just for a minute, always make sure you're protected.

Questions for Discussion

Most fall related injuries happen at home. What are some common household chores that you can think of that could require some sort of fall protection?

Please list one or more near miss that has been addressed on your current project. What steps were set in place to prevent the potential near miss or incident from happening again?

In the past Month have you authorized payment to a contractor for work performed? Please give an example.

In the past Month have you rejected any work performed by a contractor based on your judgment of the work quality? Please explain.



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Near Misses Reported in June

Vehicles on the ROW (parking on slopes):

Contractor 's crew truck was parked on a hill, it slipped out of park and rolled down the hill; no injury or property damage reported.

Safety meeting was called and crews were instructed that trucks parked on slopes with no person in the vehicle must have tires chalked and the emergency brake set.

Spotter/ Operator:

Morooka buggy struck the pipe as the coating crew was jeeping and coating; no injuries reported.

Stand down safety meeting was called the incident was discussed and contractor will have a spotter in front and in back of equipment that is turning around near the pipe.

Spotter and Tag line hands positioning:

Contractor employees getting beneath and between loads.

Stopped the work explained the dangers of being under loads and in pinch points. Also covered this with all workers at the next safety meeting.

Speed on and off the ROW:

Crew truck was seen traveling too fast down county road (contractor had a crew working on the side of this road)

The contractor was instructed to slow down on the county roads and reminded they are representing the gas company as well as their company to the community we are working in.

Lifting straps;

Take the time to make sure they are in good shape.

Safety Alert

Blind spots; contractor laborer was standing in the swing radius of a track hoe, the operator did not know he was there and swung around and almost unloaded his bucket on top of him. Equipment work areas must always be respected. Remember if you are around working equipment make sure the operator knows where you are, the best way to know he sees you is to make eye contact with him.

You guys be safe and have a blessed day.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Job Title: _____

Date: _____