

# TOOLBOX TALK for the week of April 22nd, 2024.

## All Hands Meeting

On May 9<sup>th</sup> we're having our mid-year All Hands Meeting at the office. Plan to be there at 12:30 so lunch can start at 1:00.

We'll be collecting donations of shoes and kids clothing for Northwest Children's Outreach again this year, so plan on donating new or like news shoes and clothing for kids ages toddler to teen.

There will also be a drawing for some great prizes provided by our vendors, so make sure you're there.

## Innovation Reward:

A great idea to either make us more productive, or safer, or both, may get you a reward. After you get the twenty-five-dollar award, you're automatically included in the drawing for two hundred and fifty dollars at our year end meeting. Share your great ideas and it just might pay off.

## Recent Incidents

- Excelsior – Strain
  - The worker twisted his ankle while walking on loose gravel.
    - Root Cause - No clear root cause determined.
- Intel – Property Damage
  - Workers backing up a box truck and hit an Intel direction sign.
    - Root Cause - Workers did not use a spotter while backing.
- Unitus – Strain
  - While emptying a tippy it lost a wheel in the dumpster. The worker retrieved the wheel and attempted to snap it back in place, in doing so, he felt a pop in his finger.
    - Root Cause – 1) Using tools/equipment in poor condition. 2)Unplanned work without proper tools.
- All Classical – Cut
  - Using an extension pole with a roto-hammer and a Hilti combination head. The worker finished a hole and was moving to the next. The drill part of the Hilti combo tool remained in the hole when the worker pulled away, a moment later the drill part came out of the hole, falling about 10' and popping the worker in the lower lip.
    - Root Cause – 1) Plan was not fully vetted. 2) The worker was not properly trained for the work. 3) We didn't consider the hazards of this tool.
- Excelsior – Strain
  - Worker was running a bazooka all morning. After lunch, he went back on the tube without stretching. He soon felt pain in his back. He was put on a different task to give his back time to heal.
    - Root Cause – 1) Cold start after lunch, no stretch. 2) Repetitive work. 3) Determination that this worker was the best and fastest at this task, no cross-trained back-up. 4) Working over shoulder level for too long.
- Warehouse – Strain
  - Workers loaded >20' stick of tube steel onto a blue cart to roll it up the ramp into warehouse. One worker pulled the load up the ramp while his partner pushed. Once up ramp he felt pain in his lower back.
    - Root Cause – 1) Unplanned work. Material was delivered without a plan. 2) Re-aggravated an old injury. 3) Pulling the cart while his partner pushed made cart twist, this caused him to be in an awkward body position.

As you noticed, there have been four recent incidents that resulted in strains.

We've formed a committee to address this issue and will be sharing some of our findings at the All-Hands Meeting. Our goal is to reduce strains and sprains by ten percent this year, so our focus must continue to be on planning our work, reducing repetitive injuries, and better body positioning.

