

TOOLBOX TALK, January 12th, 2026

Training

There are no union trainings available this month.

Check your records at fsstools.com under the *Training Records* tab to see what you need.

When they're available, sign up for classes, at the union training site or check schedules at fsstools.com.

Safety Slogan

There's only one day left to turn in your safety slogan ideas. If yours is selected, you'll see it on T-shirts and banners soon. Submitting your ideas is easy, just open www.fsstools.com and go the suggestion box, enter your ideas and hit submit. We'll capture everyone's ideas and present them to be voted on at our Safety Committee meeting on Tuesday. Today's your last chance, do it now.

2026 Safety Goals

At the beginning of each year, we set safety goals to focus on throughout the year. In 2025, we met—and in some cases exceeded—our goals. Recordable injuries decreased by 50%, cuts were reduced by 12%, strains and sprains dropped 19%, and eye injuries decreased by 47%. However, puncture injuries of both hands and feet increased and remain an area of concern.

In 2026, we will continue working to reduce injuries, with a strong focus on hand injuries and housekeeping. After next week's Safety Committee meeting, we'll share more specific goals. In the meantime, stay focused on working safely and maintaining high-quality work practices.

More Hand Protection Best Practices

We may think it's impossible to prevent every injury on a job site or predict when an injury may occur. But in many cases, if we're paying attention, we can see what's coming and avoid injuries. We can reduce our risk by recognizing hazards and following safe work practices that help protect us and our coworkers from accidents and injuries.

Whenever possible, we use tools that keep our hands out of the line of fire during tasks that could result in hand or finger injuries. For example, using push sticks when operating a table saw helps keep our hands at a safe distance from the blade. Side handles and guards on grinders serve a similar purpose.

We can limit blade exposure when using utility knives by always wearing cut level 4 gloves to help prevent injuries.

We must always wear the appropriate hand protection for the task being performed. Understanding the limitations of our gloves and using them only for tasks they're designed to handle is part of the formula.

We can avoid working in the blind or placing our hands in areas where we cannot see what we're doing.

We should never work on energized equipment. Always use lock out / tag out procedures with dangerous equipment to prevent accidental start-up.

We should always be aware of our surroundings and be mindful of what others are doing around us.

If we're injured, we must report to our foreman immediately and follow the steps needed to take care of the injury.

Hand safety is just one facet of safe work habits that we incorporate every day. Looking ahead and anticipating what could happen is key to staying safe as we work.

Plan your work - Work your plan

[**Toolbox Talk Submission**](#)