

TOOLBOX TALK for Safety Week, June 17th, 2024.

Heads Up

We don't have details about how it happened, but on May 30th an Iron Worker, working on the remodel of Benson High School was run over by a forklift and killed. This frightening reality serves as a warning for all of us who are working on busy and congested jobs.

There may be danger on any job, but jobs where we're working around moving equipment and machinery are even more dangerous. Our work at Willamette Water Supply and at Columbia Blvd. WWTP are good examples of jobs where we're working around fast-moving, heavy construction equipment that could cause severe injury or death.

Never assume the right of way or that an equipment/crane operator can see us. It's up to us to make eye contact with operators, stay on marked paths, keep clear of overhead loads, and to stay out of swing radius's where we might be at risk of getting caught between moving equipment and fixed objects.

It only takes a moment for life to change, let's have it be from winning the lottery, instead of an encounter with moving equipment.

What are some risks on this job?

Task Specific PPE

We're still getting questions about task specific PPE, so let's take a minute to clear things up.

Cut sleeves: Several JHAs outline when we must wear cuts sleeves. The rule of thumb is that sleeves should be worn when there's a risk of cutting our arms. JHAs that include wearing sleeves are:

JHA #1 Metal framing	JHA #2 Structural steel framing	JHA #4 Shaft wall installation
JHA #10 Lathing	JHA #15 Veneer plaster	JHA #16 EIFS
JHA #17 Demolition	JHA #18 Glass demo and removal	JHA #19 Ceiling tile removal
JHA #22 Mobil scaffold*	JHA #23 Power tool use*	JHA #24 MEWP*
JHA #27 Powder actuated tools	JHA #29 Cut shop	JHA #30 Cover and clean-up
JHA #33 Fall protection*	JHA #34 Overhead work*	JHA #35 Material handling

*Note: * Indicates when framing or working with sharp metal or other sharp material*

Respirators: Company policy requires ½ mask respirators for tapers and finishers when sanding drywall and for any worker who is dry sack mixing or demoing cementitious materials. Half mask respirators require a fit test, so if you need to wear one contact Safety to get it fitted. Our companywide written policy does not require mask use for other work, though we do include masks requirements in several JHAs for task specific situations. Masks should be worn when working in conditions where we might breathe in dust or debris. JHAs that include mask requirements are:

JHA #13 Spraying applied fireproofing*	JHA #14 Stucco application*	JHA #16 EIFS*
JHA #17 Demolition	JHA #19 Ceiling tile removal	JHA #25 Roto hammer
JHA #30 Cover and clean up		

*Note: * Indicates when spraying*

If you have questions about when to wear task specific PPE, coordinate with your foreman before you start your work.

