

# **DROPPED OBJECTS PREVENTION & RISK AWARENESS**



ToolBox Talk >>> Dropped Objects



Securing your tools and materials at heights is crucial in preventing injuries and accidents. Preventing drops is everyone's job.

### RISKS

Drop talk: When we talk about drops, we're referring to any non-human object that takes an unexpected trip downward - from the smallest screw to the largest piece of equipment.

How it Happens: It could be the wind, a slippery grip, or just a moment of distraction. Anything from the weather to a stumble can send a tool tumbling.

# 111L caused by dropped objects annually BLS. 2011-2022, 2023

### COSTS

Serious Consequences: The stakes are high—coworkers or other bystanders who happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time could be seriously injured or even killed.

Beyond a Pain: Besides the danger of bodily harm, there's also damage to the tool itself as well as whatever it hits - from structures to nature. The cost of all of that damage adds up quickly!

Derailing the Day: Chasing after fallen gear wastes time and can create new hazards. Every trip down to retrieve a tool means unnecessary exposure to slips, trips, and falls.

DISCUSSION DATE:

### SOLUTIONS

Gear Up with PPE: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) like head and eye protection are vital, but it's not our only defense against falling objects.

Stay Up to Date: Through training sessions, safety talks like this, and updated standards, we can prepare before we work to prevent drops before they happen.

Work Smarter: It's about more than just a sure grip to prevent falling objects. Use physical barriers like toeboards and dropped objects prevention tools to stop a drop before it starts.

## Look for the Label

## **ANSI/ISEA 121-2023**

Ensure your preventative solutions conform to the only Dropped Objects Standard in the world. Look for the ANSI/ISEA 121 label.

## The 3Ts of Dropped Objects

Trapping: Modify your tools to create secure attachment points, ensuring they're still fully functional and any modification does not impede their usability.

Tethering: Connect tools to a sturdy anchor with lanyards, keeping them within reach and off the ground.

**Topping:** Use containers with secure closures or 'tops' for transporting tools and materials.





