

# Talk No. 18 – Accident Prevention

## Reason for Talk

Accident cost lives and can be prevented.

## Main Points

### General

#### Accidents are caused by:

- ◆ People not thinking, not following instructions, or not putting their training into practice.
- ◆ Unsafe manual handling, loading, stacking and storing of materials.
- ◆ Overloading of platforms, scaffolds, hoists, plant, etc.
- ◆ Incorrect use and abuse of plant and equipment.
- ◆ Use of faulty equipment and “homemade” repairs.
- ◆ Illegal adaptations and illegal removal of guards/barriers.
- ◆ Failure to use PPE and ignoring safety signs/warning devices.
- ◆ The costs of accidents include pain, suffering, ongoing disability, and potential fatalities.
- ◆ Can also result in loss of earnings, incapacity for the job, inability to support family, etc.
- ◆ Employers face financial and time costs in compensation, loss of working time, lost management time during investigations, possible fines, etc.

#### Help prevent accidents by:

- ◆ Not removing any guards/barriers.
- ◆ Not handling hazardous substances without knowing the hazards.
- ◆ Not using plant and equipment unless suitably trained.
- ◆ Always complying with laid down procedures.
- ◆ Always wearing suitable PPE as applicable.
- ◆ Not engaging in horseplay where it could result in hazards.
- ◆ Not misusing/abusing any equipment provided for safety.
- ◆ Not using any defective equipment/plant, and not carrying out “homemade” repairs.
- ◆ Employing good hygiene standards.
- ◆ Using the correct tools for the job.
- ◆ Obeying site safety rules and signs.

### On Site Safety

*The presenter should outline / reiterate the site specific requirements of this particular site with regard to;*

- ◆ Equipment does not cause accidents – people do!
- ◆ Every accident is owned by someone somewhere!

## Questions

Presenter should request any questions from the audience

**MAIN POINT FROM THIS SESSION**

**ACCIDENTS NEED NOT HAPPEN**

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