TOOLBOX TALK

LADDER INSPECTIONS

29 CFR 1910.23

Portable, extension and fixed ladders must be inspected before each work shift to make sure the ladder is in good condition for use.

Sometimes it will be obvious that a ladder has been damaged and should not be used. But other defects that compromise a ladder's structural integrity may require a closer look. Go through the following checklist before each work shift to make sure each ladder is safe to use and identify any ladder that have the following characteristics:

- Rungs or steps of portable metal ladders are warped, dimpled, bent or creased
- Rungs or steps of any ladder have lost their slip-resistant feature
- Damaged spreaders, locking devices or portable ladders
- Metal ladders have signs of corrosion
- Any part of a ladder is punctured or lacerated
- Wood of a wooden ladder is extremely dry or splinted, affecting the integrity of the ladder

Any ladder that does not meet the above requirements must be immediately tagged with the words "Dangerous: Do Not Use" and removed from service until they can be repaired or replaced. Because tags can become detached over time, any ladder that cannot be repaired should be cut or otherwise made unusable so that it cannot be repurposed or reused anywhere else.

OUR SITE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS/PROCEDURES

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants:

Continue employee participants on back if needed ▶

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