

>> TOOLBOX TALK - Hands and Equipment

Explain Dangers

Construction work poses many types of risks to our hands including cuts, punctures, crushing, heat burns, chemical burns, hand-arm vibration syndrome, and even amputation. But many of these risks can be reduced or eliminated by:

- using the proper tools, equipment/machinery and materials;
- following Safe Work Practices (SWP) and Safe Job Procedures (SJP); and
- wearing the proper personal protective equipment (PPE).

Identify Controls

What can we do in the workplace to protect our hands?

- Use the appropriate tool(s) or equipment for the job. Inspect the item(s) prior to use. Ensure that tools and equipment have safety guards in place, if applicable. Guards are there for a reason – to protect you and your hands.
- Keep ergonomics in mind when selecting a tool or piece of equipment.
- Follow the training received and manufacturer's instruction for the equipment you are using.
- Report unsafe conditions to your supervisor (such as a piece of machinery that is not working the way it should or a guard that is broken or out of service).
- Ensure that appropriate signage is in place, (such as pinch point signs on machinery or a danger sign showing caustic materials in the area).
- Review SWP's and SJP's to ensure that they have clauses for hand safety, where applicable.
- Follow SWP's and SJP's (for example, removing rings and bracelets while using equipment).
- Follow lockout tagout (LOTO) procedures, where

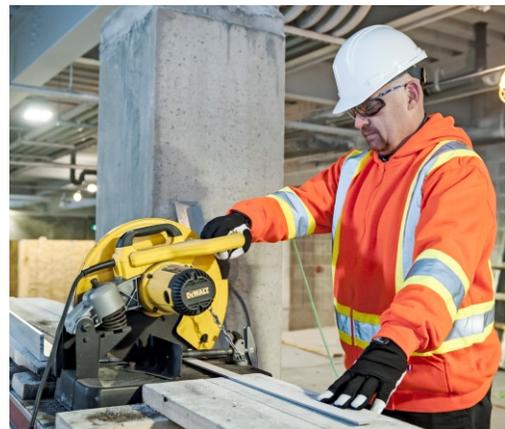
applicable, to perform required maintenance work.

- Ensure good housekeeping practices are being followed. A tool or a piece of equipment out of place could cause a serious puncture wound, a cut, or even worse.
- Review MSDS (SDS) for chemicals being used in the workplace.
- Wear the appropriate PPE for the task. For example, there are several types of gloves, each with their own purpose: Leather gloves; insulated gloves; cut-resistant gloves; anti-vibration gloves; disposable gloves; chemical resistant gloves; electrically insulated gloves; etc.

Note: The Newfoundland and Labrador Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2012, Section 78 - General Requirements of Limb and Body Protection states:

“Where there is a danger of injury, contamination or infection to a worker’s skin, hands, feet or body, the worker shall wear properly fitting protective equipment appropriate to the work being done and the hazards involved”.

Demonstrate and Discuss Hand Safety



Complete and attach Toolbox Talk Meeting Form and process as per company policy.

TOOLBOX MEETING FORM

Date: _____ Project: _____

Supervisor: _____ No. in Crew: _____ No. Attending: _____

Review Last Meeting:

	Names of Attendees (Signature Required)
Topics Discussed (policies, practices, procedures, hazard assessment):	
Suggestions Offered:	
Action(s) to be Taken:	
Injuries/Accidents Reviewed:	

Supervisor's Remarks: _____

Signature: _____