

THE DROP **STOPS** **HERE**

DROPPED OBJECTS AWARENESS

TOOLBOX TALK SERIES – INCIDENT & NEAR MISS REPORTING FOR DROPPED OBJECT



IF IT FALLS – REPORT IT

Dropped objects are often near-misses before they become injuries. A small bolt that lands beside someone today can become a serious incident tomorrow if the root cause isn't fixed. Reporting every dropped object — big or small — helps find hazards early, fix unsafe conditions, and protect everyone on site.



KEY MESSAGE

Reporting is not about blame. It's about prevention, learning, and keeping everyone safe.

REPORTING DROPPED OBJECTS

- Report every dropped object incident, even the small ones
- Consider a near miss a warning sign
- Report incidents as soon as possible
- Review your company reporting process
- Know how reporting dropped objects can report site safety
- Ensure workers feel comfortable in reporting incidents

EVERY DROPPED OBJECT MUST BE REPORTED- EVEN THE SMALL ONES

Tape measures, drill bits, washers, nuts, utility knives, pieces of lumber — if it leaves your hand or work surface unexpectedly, it's reportable. Small objects can cause serious harm when dropped from height.

NEAR MISSES ARE WARNING SIGNS, NOT PAPERWORK BURDENS

Near misses show us what could have happened. They help:

- Find weak spots
- Improve controls
- Stop future injuries

Ignoring near misses means missing the chance to fix the problem.

QUICK REPORTING PREVENTS REPEAT INCIDENTS

The faster issues are reported, the sooner they can be fixed. Immediate reporting helps supervisors check the hazard and make changes before the next shift or task creates the same risk.

REVIEW YOUR COMPANY REPORTING PROCESS

Workers should know:

- Who to report to
- What information to provide
- What happens after a report is submitted
- How corrective actions are shared with the crew
- A simple, clear reporting pathway helps everyone take part.

HOW REPORTING DROPPED OBJECTS CAN IMPROVE SITE SAFETY

When a dropped object is reported, your site can:

- Install more toe boards or netting
- Improve housekeeping
- Add or adjust tethers
- Change drop zones
- Add signs or more supervision
- Reporting protects everyone, even workers who may not know they were at risk.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY: NO BLAME – ONLY IMPROVEMENT

Workers must feel safe reporting without fear of getting in trouble or being embarrassed. Reporting is a sign of awareness, responsibility, and professionalism. A strong safety culture encourages reporting, celebrates awareness, and treats incidents as learning opportunities

ACTIVITY

Discuss a recent dropped-object incident or near miss (keep it anonymous). Talk about:

- What happened
- What stopped further harm
- What controls could be added
- What lessons apply to today's tasks
- This helps everyone learn without naming individuals.

KEY TAKEAWAY

If it falls... report it. Reporting saves lives, builds culture, and stops the next incident.

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