

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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Company Name SUPERIOR WATERPROOFING Job Name _____ Date _____

IT'S IN YOUR HANDS

A tool is only as safe and as useful as the person who uses it. Every hand tool is intended to be used in a specific way. You don't swing a sledge as you would a tack hammer, or use a pipe wrench as you would a screwdriver. There are also different safety rules for different tools, and even for different situations. There are however, two safety rules that apply to virtually every tool: 1) choose the right tool for the job, and 2) make sure that the tool is in good condition and safe to use.

Choose the right tool for the job. Maybe that sounds obvious, but the fact is, many hand tool accidents occur when somebody tries to use a tool for a job it wasn't designed to do. Maybe you have seen someone try to use a screwdriver as a chisel, watched someone pound on a bolt with a wrench, or heard of someone using a standard socket on a metric nut because it was "close enough." That sort of misuse causes injuries and damages the tools. Use the right tool for the job, even if it means extra time to get off the ladder or climb out of the trench to go over to the trailer or tool crib.

The next step is a good, close inspection of the tool you're going to use. Inspect hammer heads for chips, and make sure that hammer and mallet heads are secure and tightly wedged. Check wooden handles for splits and cracks. Check plastic handles for cracks and chips. The price of using a tool with a bad handle could be a blister, cut, or splinter — relatively minor injuries, but still painful and irritating. On chisels, watch out for mushroomed heads, those little curlicues will seem much larger if one ends up in your eye. Watch out for wrenches that have bent or chewed-up ends and sockets that are stripped out. Remember that a sharp tool will cut faster, cleaner, easier, and more safely than a dull one. If the tool you choose is defective or damaged, replace it or get it fixed before you begin work.

So, there are two safety rules to consider before using any tool: select the right tool for the job, and then inspect it for damage or defects. But don't let safety stop here. Always use tools safely, and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment. The right tool in the hands of a trained and thoughtful professional is an unbeatable combination.

SAFETY REMINDER

PPE is no different than any other tool, choose the right PPE for the job, and make sure that it's in good condition.

Special Topics For Your Project SAUSAGES CAN BE OPENED WITH A PAIR OF SCISSORS OR BY POKING WITH A LARGE NAIL. WHEN USING A SHARP BLADE ALWAYS CUT AWAY FROM YOUR BODY AND KEEP HANDS AND FINGERS OUT OF THE WAY. WEAR D-ROC LEVEL 5 CUT RESISTANT GLOVES.

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____