

SAFETY MEETING

Company Name: Superior Waterproofing Tool Talk #29 Date: 8/28/2020

OBSERVATIONS

How Observant Are You?

We live in fast times- both at home and work. With everything going on around us between stressors and the distractions of our environments, it is easy to glance over the small details. When we miss the small details at work we begin to lose focus on addressing hazards that can lead to injuries. A quick exercise can demonstrate how easy it is to lose sight of the small details.

Dollar Bill Exercise

We have all handled dollar bills throughout life, more than likely you have one in your pocket now. Without pulling one out, give me some descriptions of a one dollar bill. Pull out a one dollar bill and look for some details that aren't as noticeable. You can easily name 40 different things that are unique about a dollar bill.

So what does this exercise tell us about observations and glancing over the small details? Just like a dollar bill, we see our work areas every day.

- What details are we not paying attention to?
- What hazards are we either missing or being complacent with?
- What details or information are we missing in our work procedures?

The honest answer is probably more than we want to admit.

How Can We Improve Our Observations? (Fill in the "Unsafe Operations" at bottom of your tool talk weekly, you should always be able to find something.)

First we need to take the proper time to do a **thorough observation** of objects, tools, equipment, and the work environment for a work task. Being observant is a skill, but we also need to make a conscious effort to dedicate time to evaluate the work area around us.

- Walk around your work area and view it from different perspectives.
- Focus on details that you normally skim over.
- Use past experiences, lessons learned, safety shares, or training to identify potential hazards.
- Try putting yourself in someone else's shoes such as a safety manager or supervisor. What things in the work area would they have an issue with or want corrected?
- Really get picky about the details of your work environment. Be honest about what is a hazard in your work area and what it would take to fix it.



The little details are what lead to many of our injuries and incidents.

****QUESTION** - Everyone knows there should never be anyone working above you on a construction site. But one missed observation on a jobsite caused an injury last week. Debris was dumped into this chute while we had workers on a stage 2 feet to the right and a few feet below. A worker was struck in the hand by debris causing a laceration, bone bruising, and pain which resulted in him being off work for at least a couple of weeks while his fingers heal. How could this have been prevented? _____

WHAT UNSAFE OPERATIONS DID YOU FIND ON YOUR JOBSITE THIS WEEK?

What Corrective action was taken? _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____