SAFETY TOOLBOX TALK

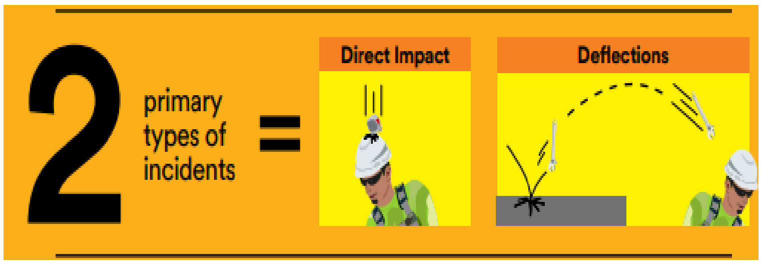
Week : Falling Objects and Falling Object Protection

Falling Object Injuries — *How common are these incidents?*

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics;

- 42,400 OSHA recordables happen every year due to falling objects. A recordable injury is one that results in restricted duty, days away from work, or death.
- That's 116 injuries a day or one **every ten minutes**!
- Dropped objects were the third leading cause of work injuries in 2019

Dropped Objects — *The Math*

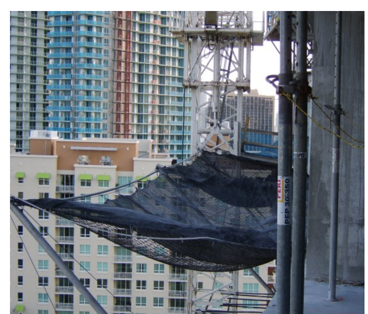


- A falling object becomes heavier as it falls
- A standard set of pliers weighs 1 pound
- If dropped from 50 feet, **it will weigh 160 pounds when it reaches the ground.**
- The pliers will be moving at a speed of 38 miles per hour before impact

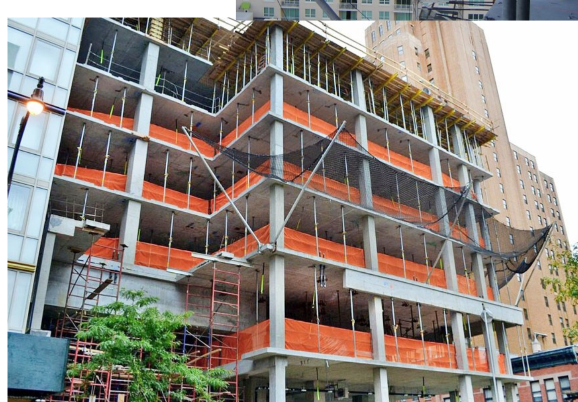
INCIDENT PREVENTION — *How do we avoid an incident?*

1. **FOLLOW PROPER GUARDRAIL AND HOLE COVER PROCEDURE**
   - All guardrails must have a toeboard installed
   - Holes greater than two inches must be covered. The cover must be secured and marked with the word "Hole"
   - Stack material at least six feet away from edges and openings. Never stack material higher than the toeboard

2. **SAFE WORK PRACTICES**
   - When passing material to other workers, verify they have control on the object before letting go
   - Never throw tools or materials to other workers
   - Keep aerial lifts clean and remove excess debris
   - Do not hang tools or material on the edge aerial lift
   - Secure loads to the carriage of the forklift when hoisting
   - Barricade the area below overhead work operations. Include a sign for added protection



4. **TOOL TETHERS, DEBRIS NETS AND CANOPY STRUCTURES**
   - When working near high pedestrian traffic areas additional protection may be needed
   - Tool tethers act as lanyards and secure tools to the belt of the worker. They are rated by pounds, select the create tether for the tool
   - Debris nets can be installed on the side of the building and around guardrails to prevent material from hitting the ground
   - Canopy structures can be built around active sidewalks near the project.



CORE SAFETY GROUP