Things to Do Before Training

- Think about workplace injuries that have happened and what could have been done to prevent them.
- Think about how to set up a job site that will be safer. For example, delivered materials should be placed near where they will be used to reduce lifting and carrying injuries.
- Think about what it would take to make the workplace safer. For example, can you do daily safety walks or can you conduct safety training on tools or equipment currently being used?

Introduction

Many construction injuries happen when we cut corners, when we hurry to finish a job, when we take chances—when we don’t work smart.

These injuries are expensive to both workers and the company. We all need to work smart to reduce injuries and expenses by avoiding short cuts or hurrying work, and by always thinking of safety first.

It is up to all of us to work together to make the job site safer. We can do this.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

- What can the company do to make the work safer?
- What can we do to make the work safer on this job?
- Is there equipment we can use or buy to make work safer? What equipment?
- Can the products that we use be replaced with safer products? What are the safer products?
**ACTIONS TO TAKE**

- Ask workers to give specific suggestions for making the work site safer. Make a list of these suggestions.
- For those suggestions that can be done immediately (such as cleanup of work site), have workers complete them.
- For items that require more time or training, tell workers when and how they will be completed.

**Key Points to Keep in Mind**

- Safety requires everyone to think about it and keep an eye out to potential dangers.
- Hurrying to get a job done may mean that shortcuts on safety are taken. However, if workers are injured because of shortcuts, the job may not get done and the cost of the injuries go far beyond the cost of not finishing on time.
- Look out for your fellow workers. If a worker is doing something risky or not using proper protection, let them know how to correct the problem.
- It’s easy to work safely at all times. You just need to think about how the job can be done in the safest manner possible. Take the time to set up a job so it can be done in a safe manner.
- Always report unsafe situations to your supervisor and coworkers.
- Always select the right tool for the job. The proper tool reduces the chance that an injury will occur.
- If there is a safer product on the market than the one you are using, you should switch to the safer product.
- Keep the work site clean of debris. The materials picked up will cut down on trips, falls, and bumps.