TOPIC: THE 3T’S OF DROPPED OBJECTS PREVENTION

Just as fall protection has the ABCs (Anchorage, Body Support, Connectors), the category of Objects at Heights has the 3T’s: Trapped, Tethered, Topped.

// TRAPPING
The creation of connection points on tools that don’t already have them designed into the tools. Be cautious, just because something looks like it has a connection point, it doesn’t mean it’s engineered to be one.

- **One-Step Tool Attachments**: Examples include slips that slide onto screw drivers and hex keys; brackets and wraps that fit specific power tools or tape measures; and sleeves that house cell phones.

- **Two-Step Attachments**: Involve two separate solutions combined into one attachment. "Tool Tails" are applied onto a tool and then “trapped” by a tape or shrink to secure them.

// TETHERING
Prevents the object itself from falling, or at least falling very far, by securing the tool or object to a worker or other anchor point, typically with a tool lanyard.

**Things to consider when choosing a tool lanyard:**
- Weight of tool you’re using
- Type of connection needed
- Clearance

**Types of Lanyards**
- Coil lanyards
- Retractable lanyards
- Wrist lanyards
- Traditional lanyards
- Specialty lanyards (for hard hats, mobile devices etc.)

// TOPPING
Describes having a closure on all containers workers use to bring tools and equipment to and from heights.

**Types of Containers**
- Tool pouches and bags
- Hoist buckets and bags

// TESTED AND TAGGED
Regardless of the type of trap, tether or topping method you use, make sure your equipment is rated by the manufacturer and labeled appropriately.

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