TOOLBOX TALKS » OBJECTS AT HEIGHTS » THE 3T'S OF DROPPED OBJECTS PREVENTION

# **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.

Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate worksite health and safety conversations. For more Toolbox Talks, please visit <u>www.ergodyne.com/blog</u>



DISCUSSION DATE:

## **EMPLOYEE PARTICIPANTS:**