



TALK LEADER INSTRUCTIONS

This is background information ONLY. Be sure to customize your talk to your operation and facilities.

- ✓ Print copies of this sheet for yourself and each of the participants.
- ✓ Lead a discussion with your workers about the materials on this sheet at a location that is appropriate to the topic. Be sure to give real life examples whenever possible.
- ✓ Be open to questions.
- ✓ Conclude with a brief review of the main points or a summary based on the discussion.
- ✓ Fill in your operation name, location and the date on your sheet. Have each worker sign your sheet to confirm their attendance.
- ✓ File your sheet in your worker training records to document the training experience.

WORK ACTIVITY

Fall protection is not just for working at heights. It can also include slippery or unstable surfaces, working on elevated surfaces, sloping surfaces (e.g. roof), or working in close proximity to an unprotected edge, hole or pit.

BACKGROUND

Did you know it only takes two seconds to fall 20 m (64 ft.)? In most provinces, a potential fall of 3 m (10 ft.) or more requires fall protection.

Key Points

We have Standard Operating Practices for fall protection on our farm. If you don't remember them, review them—you can find them:

FIND THE HAZARDS

Identify, list below and discuss all the potential fall hazards on our farm:

ASSESS THE RISKS

How likely is it that a fall could occur? Take into account the nature, frequency and duration of the task, the physical surroundings in which the task is to be performed and the conditions during which the task is to be performed.

CONTROL THE RISK

There is a specific order for controlling fall hazards which is based on using the most effective control first. Only when it is not practical to use a higher listed control would you consider using the next lower control. The order is as follows:

Eliminate the risk. Remove the hazard or hazardous work practice from the workplace by arranging, when possible, for the task to be performed from the ground or on a solid construction. For example, the need to climb a silo to open a hatch could be eliminated by using a ground-level opening device. Alternatively, a permanent ladder and walkway could be installed of solid construction with good footing and railings to provide a safe way to get to and from the silo hatch.

Install a fall prevention device.

This can be guard railing, a temporary work platform (such as a scissor lift) or an elevated work platform (e.g. a cherry picker).

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CAUTION

You must receive formal training in the safe use and limitations of personal fall protection equipment, including safety belts, harnesses, lanyards and lifelines. It is the responsibility of the farm operator / supervisor to check provincial regulations for training requirements and be sure to keep a record of the training in the farm's files.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES / CONTACTS

In case of an injury or other incident, call 911, your local emergency services and your supervisor.

MORE RESOURCES

An Introduction to Personal Fall Protection Equipment, by WorkSafe BC (2005), available at http://www.worksafebc.com/publications/health_and_safety/by_topic/assets/pdf/fall_protection.pdf.

Install a work positioning system.

These are also sometimes called fall restraint or travel-restriction systems which prevent you from falling. It restricts the worker from approaching the edge by means of a rope access or travel restraint system. This may be suitable, for example, when fitting a truck tarp from an overhead gantry.

Use a fall arrest system. Fall arrest systems, such as full body harnesses, catch platforms and safety nets, protect you after you have fallen. Note that for both work positioning and fall arrest system harnesses, anchor points and fittings need to be designed and constructed specifically for the task, and rescue provisions need to be in place prior to starting work.

Implement administrative controls.

Redesign the work procedures to eliminate or reduce the risk of a fall. You can also use a combination of the above control measures.

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS

(Use extra pages to write further comments or suggestions)

Operation Name _____

Location _____

Meeting Leader _____

Date _____

TOOLBOX TALK PARTICIPANTS

Print name _____

Signature _____



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This Producer Tool was developed by the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA). Conducting regular Toolbox Talks, or safety meetings, with farm workers is one component of establishing a comprehensive farm safety plan as outlined in the Canada FarmSafe Plan, CASA's business-risk management tool for health and safety on the farm. To download the core Canada FarmSafe Plan, visit www.casa-acsa.ca/CanadaFarmSafePlan, or contact CASA to learn more at 1-877-452-2272.

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