



Toolbox Talk

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 12

WEEK OF MARCH 21, 2011

Our Safety History

This "Toolbox Talk" Safety Meeting must be completed by the designated person and his/her crew on the first day of the week. All crew members must be present and are to sign the form at the completion of the toolbox talk. As part of the safety meeting, please designate someone from the crew to complete the checklist below. The participation and cooperation of all crew members is necessary to ensure a successful safety program. Please return this sheet to the office basket with your timesheet.

FIRST AID KIT FULL

YES NO

WHAT'S MISSING

FIRE EXTINGUISHER
CHARGED & READY

YES NO

JOB NAME:

TRUCK #

Just the other day I was completing a sub-contractor questionnaire for one of our projects and the first question was "How many OSHA violations has your company had in the last 3 years?" You have to be honest, it's public information and if they really wanted to check they could look it up on OSHA's website, so I wrote down five. Next question; Please provide details of these violations, attach additional paper if necessary.

OK, so I entered the following:

4-1-2008 NO TRAFFIC SIGNS AT POINT OF HAZARD

4-1-2008 EMPLOYEES EXPOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

4-1-2008 COMPETENT PERSON FAIL TO TAKE ACTION

4-1-2008 NO PROTECTIVE SYSTEM IN EXCAVATION

9-15-2009 NO TRAFFIC SIGNS AT POINT OF HAZARD

No how competent does this make us look as an excavation contractor? They probably noticed that we managed to get cited for the same thing TWICE. Certainly nothing to be proud of; embarrassed is more like it. A contractor's safety history has become a primary qualifier for getting work.

We HAVE to make every effort possible to follow OSHA regulations at EVERY job. Not only did these violations cost us the first time, but they continue to follow us and bite us every time we have to list them on bid forms and safety questionnaires. If we were to get inspected by OSHA and cited again, it's a guarantee that they will look at our violation history before issuing the fine. Oh, and don't forget about the negative press we would get with a long list of violations if, God forbid, an employee was killed on the job.

Do your part, follow safety rules and strive to keep the company safety record clean.

Jobsite specific hazards discussed

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Attendance
