

Toolbox Talk

12. Demolition



What?

- Demolition falls under the general term Construction and involves the dismantling or knocking down of buildings or other structures using machines or in some cases by hand. This process can be very risky because of the difficulty in predicting exactly how the structure will react as pieces are removed, and planning is essential if mistakes are to be avoided
- Dismantling of buildings is usually done by following the same method to erect the structure but in reverse so that it follows the correct sequence as material is removed
- However sometimes it is necessary to use special machines to simply demolish the building or structure, or explosives to weaken or drop the structure

Why?

- Sadly too many people are killed or injured during demolition because of being in the wrong place at the wrong time
- During demolition material can topple or suddenly collapse, fall from height, give way underneath or suddenly spring out of position



Do



- ✓ Follow any relevant Safe Systems of Work
- ✓ Obtain a Permit where required
- ✓ Carefully check the site rules
- ✓ Obtain permission before entry
- ✓ Keep to specified areas
- ✓ Leave immediately the job is finished
- ✓ Wear suitable PPE especially hard hat, safety footwear and high visibility vest

Don't



- ✗ Enter a demolition site unless authorised
- ✗ Work on unsupported structures
- ✗ Work unsupervised in a demolition area
- ✗ Work under unstable structures
- ✗ Stand or work near demolition operations
- ✗ Carry out hot work unless you have a Permit
- ✗ Throw material to lower levels
- ✗ Work on fragile surfaces



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