

Toolbox Talk

62. Safe Place of Work



What?

- A place of work is anywhere you undertake work activities and therefore would include such places as roofs, basements, company cars and van, remote outstations etc. A safe place of work is where suitable precautions have been introduced to eliminate potential hazards in the workplace
- Employers have an obligation to provide and maintain systems of work and a working environment which are, as far as is reasonably practicable, safe and without risk to health and to ensure no one gets hurt



Why?

- Workplaces which are initially safe can easily become dangerous unless every effort is made to check and maintain safe conditions
- We should make every effort to identify unsafe conditions and take steps to eliminate them
- Many people are injured each year because the workplace is unsafe due to such things as poor lighting, holes in floors, open electrical boxes, tripping hazards, wet floors, missing guards, faulty equipment etc



Do



- ✓ Follow the correct procedures when entering a new workplace
- ✓ Take time to get to know the workplace layout
- ✓ Familiarise yourself with site safety rules and emergency procedures (alarm, assembly points, escape routes)
- ✓ Comply with any signs warning of workplace hazards
- ✓ Check for unsafe conditions and try to eliminate them or report them to your supervisor
- ✓ Wear or use suitable PPE
- ✓ Keep the place clean and tidy

Don't



- ✗ Ignore unsafe conditions
- ✗ Create additional hazards because of the way you work
- ✗ Forget to report accidents and near misses
- ✗ Use equipment if it is unsafe
- ✗ Continue to work if you are unsure about the correct procedures - check first



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