

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

Vol.23 | No.39 | Week of 09-24-24 THINK FIRST

Date:

Job Name:



You often hear the phrase "Safety First." It is usually used as a reminder to "work safely," or "be safe." But if you are really going to be safe, and make the jobsite safe, you have to Think First. You have to be thoughtful and careful. You have to think about your immediate environment, your work area, procedures, your co-workers, and the hazards involved in your work. Sometimes you will have to stop—literally stop what you are doing— and think carefully before you take the next step.

Consider the weather. Think about conditions like wet surfaces, icy steps, strong winds, or a really hot room. How does the weather affect your safety, and what can you do to control or manage those effects?

Make a plan. Make a pre-task plan before you do anything. Think through the risks and hazards that you will, and might, encounter. Working at heights? Using solvents? Working with a new crew? Now find ways to control those risks. The more complicated the task, the more thought you will need to put into your plan.

Read the instructions. Do not assume you know how to safely operate every tool. Take a minute to review the instructions and think about how to use the tool properly and safely. For chemicals, read the label, the SDS, and the instructions before you open the container.

Use the right tool. Always use the right tool for the job— you will be safer and more efficient. One of the biggest excuses for making do is that the right tool is too far away.

Figure out what personal protective equipment you will need. Are you using the right PPE— the right hard hat, the best earplugs, the right respirator, the properlength lanyard? Are you sure? How do you know? Think carefully.

Do you really know all that you need to know? Thinking may not be enough if you do not already understand the facts and details of the situation. Do you need to learn (or re-learn) the facts and details? Have materials, processes, or equipment changed since you went through training? You should know more about your job and how to do it than anyone else. You need experience and training to get there. Ask questions and get formal training.

Supervisor Signature:



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