

Patrick St. Peter & Sons

Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors

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Falling Object Protection Written Safety Plan

Purpose:

Due to established hazards related to plumbing and heating work, the company requires the use of guidelines for Falling Object Protection to prevent injuries to our employees.

Responsibilities:

To ensure that the Company's policy for Falling Object Protection is fully implemented, responsibility is assigned to the following individuals:

Enforcement: front-line supervisors
Answering questions/coaching: front-line supervisors/safety manager
Authorizing of changes in the written policy: project/safety manager
New-employee and refresher training: safety manager/front-line supervisor

Hazard Identification:

HAZARD

Dislodged tools and building materials

SOLUTION/CONTROL

All temporary elevated work surfaces (scaffolds) shall be equipped with toeboards, and/or screening between the platform and mid or top guard rails.

Overhead work

Areas directly below elevated work shall be barricaded to prevent workers from entering that area.

Working around other trades

Work shall be coordinated to prevent work below other trades.

Snow and ice

Snow and ice on roofs shall be removed, or the area shall be barricaded to prevent employees from working below.

Company Standards and Procedures:

Due to reasonably expected falling or flying object hazards associated with plumbing and heating work, the following standards and procedures shall be followed by all employees:

1. Employees shall wear hard hats during all phases of construction work where overhead work is ongoing. At a minimum, this shall include the following: Framing, roofing, sheathing, stonework, masonry and siding.

- a. Hard hats shall also be worn at all times where multi-level work is ongoing within a weatherproof shell.
2. All building materials, including but not limited to plywood, dimensional lumber, shingles, drywall, tar paper and Tyvek shall be stacked and secured to prevent sliding, falling or collapse onto lower levels.
3. Secure tools and materials to prevent them from falling on people below.
4. Use toeboards, screens, or guardrails on scaffolds to prevent falling objects.
5. Use protective measures on elevated working surfaces (balconies, decks, etc.) to include toeboards and debris nets.
6. Avoid working underneath loads being moved by cranes, rough terrain boom fork lifts or construction material delivery trucks.
7. Barricade hazards areas where the potential for falling objects exists, post warning signs, and prohibit workers from working in these areas.
8. Inspect cranes and other hoisting devices to see that all components, such as wire rope, lifting hooks, chains, etc. are in good condition.

Training:

Employees shall be trained in the policy of falling object protection as follows:

1. At time of hire in the specific areas where falling object hazards will be encountered and how the employee is expected to protect themselves.
2. Prior to using falling object protection or equipment on which the employee has not been trained.
3. Annually on all falling object protection systems which the employee will use on a daily basis.

Enforcement Policy:

When a worker is observed working in a manner that exposes them to falling object hazards, the following steps shall be taken by their immediate supervisor:

1. First occurrence – Verbal warning. With coaching on the proper procedures to be followed. Note made in supervisor's daily log or job report.
2. Second occurrence – Written warning. Supervisor and employee sign the documented reprimand. A copy of the written warning is placed in the employee file.
3. Third occurrence – Written warning is completed and the employee is given 8 hours, or one full workday, off without pay.
4. Fourth occurrence – When an employee fails to use proper falling object protection within 6 months of having been given time off without pay – the employee shall be terminated.