

Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series!



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Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series. Today we will talk about falling objects, which are common hazards on all worksites. We will focus on giving you the tools you need to reduce the risk of falling object accidents and make your workplace safer.



HARD HAT
TRAINING SERIES

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FALLING OBJECT HAZARDS
SAFETY TRAINING





Whether you're working at extreme heights or around heavy machinery, falling objects are a very real risk to your safety on the job site. You probably have been trained on fall protection to save yourself from dangerous falls, but this training focuses on how you can protect the people below from falling objects.

On a regular Monday morning at the construction site of a New Jersey residential tower, a worker was delivering sheetrock. As he parked his truck and got out, he left his hard hat in the passenger seat because he was supposed to be a short delivery.



Fifty stories above him, a tape measure slipped off another worker's belt. Scaffolding deflected the tape measure's 500-foot plummet, sending it straight for the truck driver's head. The tool knocked him unconscious. He died later that day in the hospital.

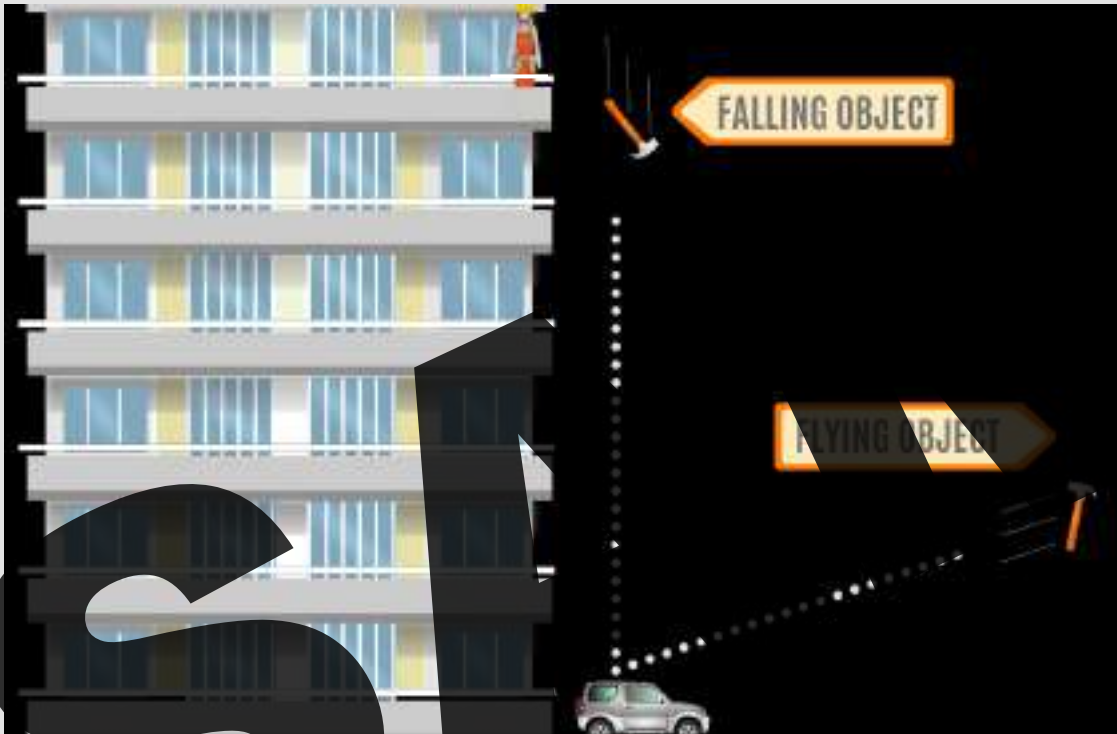


After the investigations, the construction company was fined for not posting warning signs and tags. The victim should have been wearing a hard hat, but because there weren't any warning signs, he wasn't as aware of the falling object hazards present. What can be done to prevent accidents like this? In this training, you will learn about safe operations that protect you from accidents like this.

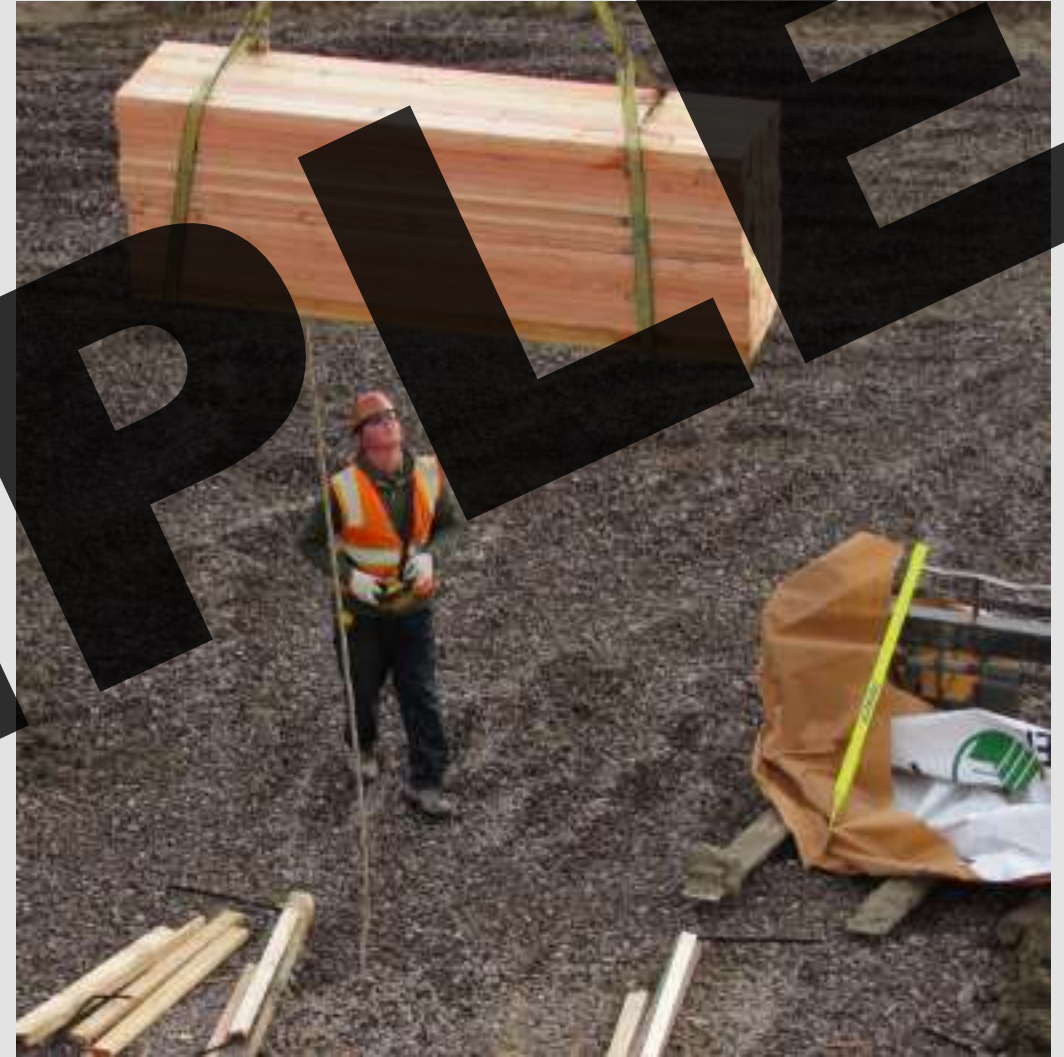
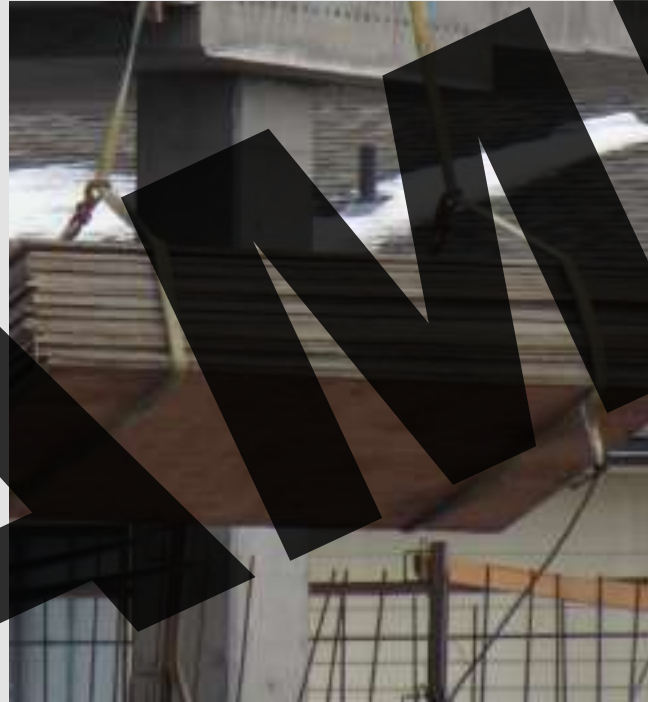


About Falling Objects

Falling object accidents are considered a type of struck-by accident. Tools or other material falling from an elevation to a lower level are called falling objects. Falling objects may be tools, equipment, or even a load from a heavy machine. A falling object sometimes hits a surface that deflects its momentum into horizontal motion, making it a flying object.



Flying objects can be just as dangerous as falling objects because their force is directed horizontally. However, for the sake of this training, we will focus only on falling objects. In addition to falling tools, suspended loads are considered falling objects if they happen to come loose and fall to the ground, as are pieces of equipment that are pushed off unprotected edges.



Impact

Why should you be concerned about falling object accidents in your workplace? Accidents caused by falling objects often result in serious injuries or death. In addition, they entail steep fines, legal burdens, and other costs.



Did You Know?

On average, nearly 143 objects strike people every day in the United States alone.

TOP INJURIES FROM FALLING OBJECTS



DEATH



PARALYSIS



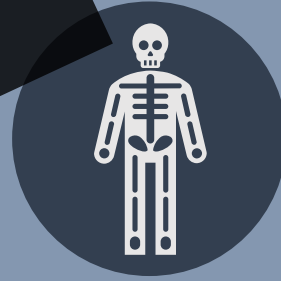
AMPUTATION



LACERATIONS



CONCUSSION



BACK, SPINAL CORD
& NECK INJURIES



BROKEN BONES



BRUISES

LAWSUITS

Victims of falling object accidents have been awarded millions of dollars to compensate for lost wages, medical expenses, and other irreparable damages to their lives. Some cases have won over \$3 million.

\$3M**DIRECT & INDIRECT COSTS**

An accident will cost \$130,000, on average. That doesn't include the legal costs and fines; however, it includes all other costs related to the accident, such as medical expenses, worker's compensation, lost productivity, and more.

\$130K**ADDITIONAL SALES NEEDED**

To cover the direct and indirect costs of a falling object-related accident, on average, a company would need to make over \$4 million in sales.

\$4M

Costs that companies face with falling object accidents include lawsuits, medical expenses, worker's compensation, lost productivity, training new employees, fines, and more. Employers should expect to make over \$4 million in sales to cover a falling object-related accident. Check out the graphic for other cost estimates.



In this training, we will go over how to operate safely on job sites that have falling object risks like sites with scaffolding, heavy machinery, or ladders. We will also review gravity principles that affect falling objects and loads.



We will also discuss different falling object hazards that you may encounter in your workplace. Real, investigated workplace accidents will allow us to recognize these hazards and plan for them.



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STANDARDS

STANDARDS

- 29 CFR 1910.28 – Protection from falling and falling objects hazards
- 29 CFR 1910.132 – Personal protective equipment
- 29 CFR 1926.50 – Medical services and first aid
- 29 CFR 1926.759 – Steel erection falling object protection
- 29 CFR 1926.451 – Scaffolding falling object protection
- 29 CFR 1926.200 – Accident prevention signs
- 29 CFR 1926.1425 – Keeping clear of the load

ANSI/ISEA 121-2018

These are some of the main standards concerning falling objects. Many states have additional standards, as do some industries. We provided these as a guide, but it's your responsibility to know all federal, local and company rules that apply to your job site.



Why Training?

No matter the situation, it is common to hear workers and even employers ask, “Where does it state we need to be trained?” Can’t a worker also be deemed “qualified” based on experience? The answer is “no.” Experience helps, yes, but OSHA makes it very clear that employees must be trained (no matter how long they’ve been on the job) and that it is the employer who is responsible for overseeing that safety training in order to confirm that the employees have the understanding, knowledge, and skills needed for safe operations.





Initial training and refresher training, as well as any written and practical evaluations, must be documented and filed. At the very least, in the case of an investigation, OSHA will want to see proof of proper and consistent training (in the way of training outlines, class lists, training goals, tests, certificates, and so on.) These documents should include the name of the person who taught the class or conducted the evaluation.



Workers are required to receive refresher training when...

- 1 There are changes in their assigned duties.
- 2 There are changes regarding potential exposure to hazards for which the employees have not received training.
- 3 There is any deficiency noted in an employee's work performance that is related to the safety and health of themselves or other workers.
- 4 If an accident or anytime an employee is injured or nearly injured during operations.

NOTE: In some areas, refresher training is required at least every three years (if not sooner).

Training is not just a one-and-done occurrence; it is ongoing. In fact, similar to the guidelines set down for when initial training is required, OSHA is also specific when it comes to “refresher training.” More specifically, OSHA acknowledges the need for “refresher” or “follow up” training whenever there is a demonstrated need for it.



The extent of training will be determined by the employer, but at the very least it should include classroom instruction followed by a written and practical examination that prove continued competency.



Safety Principles

SAMPLE



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