

Safety Theme - Tool Box

SEC&E -024

SAFETY THEME - Preventing Falling Objects

Objects have the potential to fall onto or hit people at the workplace or adjoining areas if precautions are not taken. Adjoining areas could include job fronts directly below or in the general vicinity of the workplace you are in. Equipment, materials, tooling and debris that can fall or be released sideways or ejected upwards are all considered falling objects.



Consideration shall be given to falling objects during the planning and risk management stage of a task and shall be controlled as best as reasonably practicable. Simple questions that may be asked:

- Does the equipment, tooling, material need to be there at all?
- What is the safest means of taking / removing items to and from the job front?
- Is bunting or barricading a drop/fall zone required? If so, is it adequate in accommodating the potential for deflection from sub-structures if an item does fall?
- Does the item need securing e.g. tool lanyards on hand tools? Is a drop net required?
- Is the housekeeping at the job front to an acceptable standard in keeping items away from edges?
- Are temporary structures such as scaffolding fitted with toe boards to help prevent the inadvertent falls of tooling/equipment?

All simple things that can help prevent injury or worse by the event of falling objects

References:

- SafeWork Australia - *Falling Objects Fact Sheets*

Plan.....Prevent.....Protect

Version:	Prepared By:	Document Owner:	Approval Date:	Next Review:
0	Mark Hogan	HSE Department	Sept 2014	Sept 2017

