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# Morenci Tool Box Talks

Safety Leadership – I've got the power!



# **Ladders**

It is commonly understood that working at height can be hazardous, especially when fall protection is not in-place. The use of ladders is a commonly overlooked aspect of working at heights. Remember, a fall can seriously injure or kill you, even from a ladder.

### How we can be hurt by Ladders!

- Using a ladder in a way it was not designed.
- Defects that could cause the ladder to fail
- Loss of balance, slip can result in falling from ladder
- The ladder can fall if not placed properly.
- Leaning beyond the rails increases risk of falling.
- Uncontrolled tools.
- Contact with overhead power lines.

## What can I, you, and we do to prevent injury.

- ✓ Always inspect the ladder before use.
- ✓ Always plan for the proper height, length and style of ladder to use.
- √ Always look up for electrical lines
- **✓** Ensure the ladder steps are dry and clean
- Ensure the ladder is on stable, level ground.
- ✓ Maintain a 4:1 ratio on extension ladder. 20 feet tall = 5 feet from the structure at the bottom.
- ✓ Always maintain 3 points of contact while climbing
- ✓ Make sure you can conduct your work within the limits of the vertical rails. No reaching.
- Secure the ladder and have assistance to steady the bottom of the ladder.
- ✓ Activities which require you to lose your 3 points of contact are prohibited. Welding or cutting.

#### My critical behaviors:

- ✓ Always conduct your inspection
- ✓ Ensure you maintain 3 points of contact
- ✓ Double check the setup of the ladder
- ✓ If the job changes, stop and re-assess.

#### Red Flags:

- ✓ The ladder is not secure.
- ✓ Your reaching to conduct work
- ✓ The ladder is cracked
- ✓ I am using the wrong style of ladder

When in doubt, ask your Supervisor or Lead. Never just wing it!

Changing Morenci one decision at a time!