

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

© SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423 815-464-0200 No. 4 Vol. 21 Week of *Jan* 1998

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

HARD HATS

Today's safety meeting discusses our industry's universally recognized symbol. No, we're not talking about a baseball cap, even though many construction workers wear them. We're talking about a hard hat. Hard hats are worn to protect you from two types of head injuries: electrical shocks and impacts from falling or flying objects. These hazards exist on every jobsite.

There are three classes of hard hats: **Class A** is made from a non-conductive material, and protects against electrical hazards and falling objects. **Class B** provides falling object protection, is also made from a non-conductive material, but offers the most electrical protection, up to 20,000 volts. (Class B complies with ANSI Z89.2-1971.) **Class C** provides protection from falling objects only. Make sure your hard hat is appropriate for the work you will be doing.

OSHA requires that a hard hat meet or exceed ANSI's standard Z89.1-1969. If you're tempted not to wear your hard hat, consider the brutal punishment that a Class A hard hat must endure to comply with the ANSI standard:

- The hard hat will receive a 24-hour water immersion test.
- The hard hat will be subjected to a variety of acids, solvents, and oils.
- A propane torch will be used to determine if the hat is fire resistant.
- The hard hat will also be tested to make sure it is capable of withstanding an electrical charge of 2,200 volts AC, 60 Hz, for three minutes.
- While in a horizontal position on a steel plate, an eight pound steel ball will be dropped on the hard hat from a height of fifteen feet.
- All of the above tests must be conducted at a variety of temperatures, ranging from minus twenty (-20) to one hundred forty (+140) degrees Fahrenheit.

Hard hats have to withstand this type of abuse so that they can adequately protect your head. Remember, never wear your hard hat backwards, don't drill holes through it, and never loosen the hat's suspension.

SAFETY REMINDER

**Check the condition of your hard hat daily
and replace it if it is damaged!**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____

These instructions do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations.