

APRIL 17-21, 2023

**STOP
TALK
ACT**

**NATIONAL STAND-DOWN
TO PREVENT
STRUCK-BY INCIDENTS**



What is the National Stand-Down to Prevent Struck-by Incidents?

In the construction industry, “safety stand-downs” are used to describe activities where normal work is paused and the entire site focuses on a specific safety issue. Some employers may use stand-downs to call attention to specific hazards present on their site as an intervention. The National Stand-Down to Prevent Struck-by Incidents is a voluntary event for employers to talk directly to employees about safety. Any workplace can hold a stand-down by taking a break to focus on "Struck-by Hazards" and reinforcing the importance of training and prevention. The event is held in conjunction with National Work Zone Awareness Week.

Struck-by hazards are present on nearly every job site, and include things like falling and flying objects, vehicles and heavy equipment, and swing hazards from cranes. These incidents are the number one cause of nonfatal injuries in construction and the leading cause of death among heavy and civil construction workers, but they can be avoided by careful planning, training, and the use of controls.

Contractors, workers, and safety professionals across the nation are invited to join this event. Workers can be educated on hazard prevention including topics such as avoiding blind-spots around large equipment, proper use of high-visibility clothing, creation of lift plans, use of tool tethers and safety nets, and use of safer pneumatic nail guns and other air-powered tools.

Your stand-down may be very short, comprised of a toolbox talk or a safety huddle where specific hazard controls are discussed, or it may be longer and include training and the provision of information on a variety of hazard controls. You might even use your stand-downs as an opportunity to inspect your jobsite procedures and personal protective equipment.

STOP work. **TALK** about hazards. **ACT** on what you learn.

Sample Agenda

Advance Preparation:

1. Announce Stand-Down and invite all workers to attend
2. Invite speakers/trainers
3. Identify location free from hazards, traffic, pedestrians and excessive noise
4. Set up tent in case of bad weather
5. Secure audio system so speakers can be heard by all present
6. Optional: Provide chairs/seating
7. Obtain sufficient training materials/handouts
8. Provide lunch/snacks/drinks

Program:

1. Work on site stops at 12:00 p.m.
2. All employees (including subcontractors, agencies, inspectors, etc.) gather at a designated location
3. Emcee welcomes guests and announces program line-up
4. Speaker presentations
5. Training
6. Call to action based on what was learned
7. Follow-up action deadlines and reports assigned
8. Dismiss