

DROPSIES (OOPS!)

LOOK OUT BELOW! (and above)

Dropped tools or equipment can cause injuries and property damage. Anytime you are working above the ground or working under a deck, platform, or scaffold you need to do a 360 degree hazard assessment. Don't just look around you; look above and below you:

Is anyone above you?

Are you above someone?

Are there gaps or other openings in your work area that could allow something to fall below your work area?

What about the area above you. Can something fall onto you?

You need to look at every level above and below you. Even a light weight object can be dangerous.

Periodically check out the surrounding areas to ensure conditions have not changed. If you find a problem, STOP and take care of it.

COMMUNICATE! Make your presence known to anyone that can affect you or be affected by your activities.

MATERIAL CONTROL – IT’S NOT JUST FOR SCAFFOLDS



VPP SAFETY



ALERT

Safety Sharing & Lessons Learned

VPP SAFETY ALERT #19-004

Materials and Tool Control - Scaffold Safety

Safety is reminding all supervisors and workers of the requirements for safe material handling and control while working on scaffolds or other elevated areas.

CLOSE CALL - While working on a small raised platform about 18 inches above a scaffold's main platform on the B-2 Test Stand, a worker accidentally knocked a junction box cover off the raised scaffold's access edge and onto the main scaffold platform. The cover then bounced over the main platform's toe board and fell to the flame bucket, 16 stories below landing about 10 feet away from another work crew area in the bucket base. No one was struck by the falling cover, **but that was fortunate**, this was a safety **CLOSE CALL**.



GOOD PRACTICE REMINDERS TO HELP KEEP US SAFE DURING SCAFFOLD WORK!

- Carefully control ALL materials and tools on scaffold platforms.
- Establish boundaries or spotters to control access under risky areas.
- Always tether or otherwise control tools.
- Ensure you are aware of adjacent workers and activities.
- Require use of hardhats where risk is high.
- Always use proper methods to raise and lower items to platforms (e.g.- tool bags on ropes).
- Be aware of other activities or work that may affect your work platform.
- Installing secondary catches for higher risk or high debris work.

If you do drop something, **STOP WORK!** Inform others in the area and call your supervisor. Get the "**controls**" fixed before starting back up.

July 18, 2019

Material control is a safety issue, but is also a quality issue. We need to protect our people, but we also need to minimize damage to equipment or components.

- Control materials and equipment.
- Inspect your work area to find pathways that can affect other areas, or from other areas that can affect you
- Communicate with other work groups around, above, or below you.
- If you drop something to another level, **STOP WORK!**



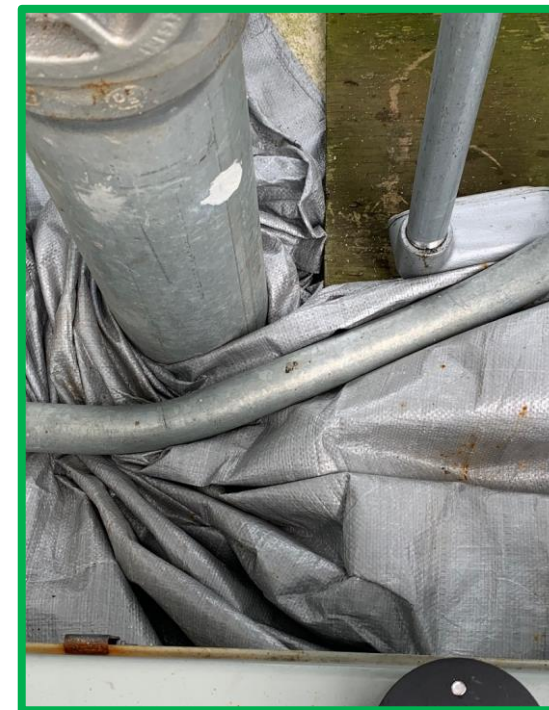
CONTROL DROPS AT THE SOURCE



Before – Items can fall to lower level

If you find openings, seal or cover them prior to beginning work.

Secure any tools or materials.



After – Openings are covered/sealed