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# **Top Four Construction Hazards**

The top four causes of construction fatalities are: Falls, Struck-By, Caught-In/Between and Electrocutions.

## **Prevent Falls**

- Wear and use personal fall arrest equipment.
- Install and maintain perimeter protection.
- Cover and secure floor openings and label floor opening covers.
- Use ladders and scaffolds safely.

#### **Prevent Struck-By**

- Never position yourself between moving and fixed objects.
- Wear high-visibility clothes near equipment/vehicles.

## **Prevent Caught-In/Between**

- Never enter an unprotected trench or excavation 5 feet or deeper without an adequate protective system in place; some trenches under 5 feet deep may also need such a system.
- Make sure the trench or excavation is protected either by sloping, shoring, benching or trench shield systems.

# **Prevent Electrocutions**

- Locate and identify utilities before starting work.
- Look for overhead power lines when operating any equipment.
- Maintain a safe distance away from power lines; learn the safe distance requirements.
- Do not operate portable electric tools unless they are grounded or double insulated.
- Use ground-fault circuit interrupters for protection.
- Be alert to electrical hazards when working with ladders, scaffolds or other platforms.

Content Source: Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) ) (Users of Safety Talk are advised to determine the suitability of the information as it applies to local situations and work practices and its conformance with applicable laws and regulations).











