



Toolbox Safety Talks

Excavations & Pits

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- 1) What are the hazards involved with excavations and pits?
 - a. Collapse of the sides
 - b. Materials falling onto people working in the excavation
 - c. People and vehicles falling into the site
 - d. Undermining nearby structures
 - e. Contact with underground utilities

- 2) What hazards should you look for at an excavation or pit site?
 - a. Is the pit stable
 - b. Proper supports installed
 - c. Falling materials
 - d. PPE
 - e. Barriers provided

- 3) What safe practices should be used around excavations and pits?
 - a. Make sure necessary equipment (such as trench sheets, props, baulks, etc.) is available on site before work begins
 - b. Do not go into unsupported excavations
 - c. Never work ahead of the support
 - d. Do not store materials close to the sides an excavation
 - e. Make sure edges are protected against falling materials. Provide toe boards
 - f. Always wear a hard hat
 - g. If an excavation is more than six feet deep, provide barriers to prevent falling
 - h. Make sure excavations do not affect the footings of scaffolds or the foundations of nearby structures
 - i. Provide good ladder access or other safe ways of getting in and out of the excavation

- 4) Are there any safety procedures that we did not cover?
- 5) Do we have any shoring equipment in need of repair?
- 6) Has anyone had an accident or near-miss while working around or in an excavation?
- 7) Someone tell me what the surface width of the pit should be if it is 12 feet deep?



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Make Time for Safety, Everyday! – Yes, production is important, *but the focus must be on Safe Production!* Keep that in the back of your mind. Don't take risky chances and stay out of harm's way. Nobody goes to work thinking *'I'm going to get hurt or killed on the job, today!'* But every day 15,000-17,000 workers suffer disabling injuries on the job and another 11-17 are killed. ***What are you doing to make sure it doesn't happen on your shift?***

Keep stoking the fire; we can't let the 'Safety Train' run out of steam!

Date Presented: _____

Presented By: _____

Attendance Sheet
