Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions on the job site. For additional Toolbox Talks, please visit SAFETY.CAT.COM™.

TOPIC: Work-Zone Traffic

Provide Proper Routing and Direction

- Project managers must determine traffic-control plans and use appropriate means to communicate them to drivers, workers on foot, and anyone else walking or driving near the work zone
- Use signals, message boards, and other devices to inform drivers and direct them away from workers
- Use approved traffic control devices, such as cones, barrels, barricades, and delineator posts inside work zones

Provide Physical Barriers

- Place concrete, water, sand, collapsible barriers, crash cushions, truck-mounted attenuators, and other devices to prevent motorists from intruding into work zones

Protect Flaggers

- Be sure all flaggers are trained and certified and use authorized signaling methods
- Flaggers should always wear high-visibility clothing with fluorescent backgrounds and retro-reflective material so that they will be visible for at least 1,000 feet in any direction (Check the label or packaging to ensure that the garments are performance class 2 or 3)
- Use signs to warn drivers that there are flaggers ahead
- Use STOP/SLOW paddles with lights. Use flags only in emergencies.
- Illuminate flagger stations with candles of five feet or greater height. Use flares or chemical lights if necessary to provide adequate lighting and control or eliminate glow.

Protect Drivers

- All vehicles must be equipped with seatbelts and rollover protection, and all occupants must use seatbelts