

# TOOLBOX TALKS

## Demolition Safety

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

### TOPIC: Demolition Safety

#### Use Personal Protective Equipment

- Wear and use appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Inspect personal protective equipment before use.

#### Plan Your Work Carefully

- Begin demolition of exterior walls and floors at the top of the structure and proceed downward.
- Do NOT cut or remove structural or load-supporting members on any floor until all stories above that floor have been removed.
- Remove all roof cornices or other ornamental stonework before pulling down walls.
- NEVER work where there is risk of structural collapse until the hazard has been eliminated through shoring, bracing, or other reliable means.
- Inspect all stairs, passageways, and ladders, and illuminate all stairways.
- Shut off or cap all electric, gas, water, steam, sewer, and other service lines, and notify appropriate utility companies.
- Use enclosed chutes with gates on the discharge end to drop demolition material to the ground or into debris containers.

#### Observe Rules for Floor and Wall Openings

- Guard wall openings to a height of 42 inches. Cover and secure floor openings with material strong enough to withstand the loads it will bear.
- When creating a floor opening for material disposal, be sure the size of the opening is no more than 25 percent of the floor's total square footage.

Discussion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Participants:

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