## How to Minimize Risk of Falls and Dropped Objects to Get Workers Home Safe Jeff Martin, Global Director of Marketing, DFP Safety Corporation

Most on-site, work-related fatalities in the construction industry are falls to lower levels. In fact, in 2022 the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported 385,000+ injuries and 700 deaths due to falls to lower levels. Additionally, there were 305,000+ injuries and more than 200 deaths from workers being struck by a falling object, the number three cause of on-site, work-related fatalities. With nearly 700,000 injuries and over 900 fatalities in 2022 you might ask yourself; *Why do these keep happening?* 

Work at height is inherently risky. Methods such as guardrails, fall restraint configurations and changing work procedures can help eliminate fall hazards; however, there are scenarios in which these safeguards are not an option.

To best protect workers and bystanders, training is critical to minimize serious injury or death from a fall or dropped object or tool. Training teaches workers how to properly utilize fall protection and dropped object prevention equipment. Fall protection is technical in nature and workers need to understand not only the risks of a fall but the risks associated with a poorly designed or implemented fall protection system. So how do we minimize the risks in the event of an accidental fall or dropped object?

Proper fall protection and dropped object prevention products can help to reduce the risk to workers at height and on the ground. "Workers at height have tough jobs. Not only are they at risk of a potentially dangerous fall, but they are also working in situations which require a great deal of balance and concentration, or are working in awkward positions making the risk of a fall, dropping a tool or equipment even greater." said Jeff Martin, Global Director of Marketing and Product Management at DFP Safety.

DEWALT continues to lead the industry in power tool drop prevention solutions. As the industry continues to advance to cordless solutions, DEWALT remains the first and only power tool manufacturer selling tethered solutions that address both the tool and its battery pack. "A core fundamental of relentlessly pursuing the jobsite of the future is DEWALT's commitment to creating safer work environments and designing solutions that help protect against some of the most common hazards on the jobsite like dropped objects." said <a href="Phil Bolton">Phil Bolton</a>, Product Management Director, DEWALT.

Training and the right equipment are critical. Fall Protection products like DEWALT <u>Comfort Harnesses</u> and <u>Self-Retracting Lifelines</u> help protect workers at height while DEWALT <u>Power Tool Lanyards</u> and <u>LANYARD READYTM Tools</u> protect bystanders and reduce the loss of tools and equipment. These methods of prevention help save time and money and most importantly, allow workers to go home safe at the end of their shift.







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