

VLR SAFETY TAILGATE TALK

September 2016

Subject: Accident Factors

Date: _____

Location (garage, mm, etc...):

Instructions:

Safety Coordinators & Supervisors should use this Tailgate Talk as a guide for discussion during their safety meetings. The primary purpose of the safety meetings is to give crews the opportunity to discuss any safety related concerns they may have.

Once the meeting has concluded, the Presenter should have each employee sign this form and include their Employee ID# in the spaces below.

TGT Presenter: _____

Name	Employee
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Accidents on our projects cause too many painful injuries. Our primary concern when we discuss the factors or causes behind an accident is to find a way to prevent a recurrence. The cause of an accident can be found in two areas—**Unsafe Acts** and **Unsafe Conditions**.

As a VTrans worker you control the first cause, **Unsafe Acts**. For example, a worker uses equipment that is defective or damaged, or they may use good equipment in a careless or other unsafe manner. Other examples of unsafe acts include disregarding posted warning signs, failure to wear a hard hat, smoking near flammables or explosives, working too close to power lines, handling chemicals or other hazardous materials improperly, putting your body or any part of it onto or into shafts or openings and lifting material incorrectly. (Just a short reminder—always lift with your legs while keeping your back straight.)

The second accident factor or cause is **Unsafe Conditions** which can be found on many of our sites. Examples include inadequate or improperly installed guard rails or a lack of any guarding. Insufficient illumination, poor ventilation, electrical grounding requirements not observed, too few fire extinguishers available, containers that are not labeled, careless disposal of waste or excess material—these are just a few of many unsafe conditions that may be caused by co-workers or contractors.

You can make a difference by taking the time to perform your work safely and reporting any unsafe condition you discover to your supervisor immediately.

When the cause behind the accident is found, you'll find that safety on the job plays a major part in preventing that accident from happening again. If everyone on the job communicates and cooperates, injury and illness statistics will be reduced and it will be much safer for you to do your job.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Safety Tailgate Talk or any safety related concerns, please contact the VTrans Safety Team.