Talk No: 2	Title: SITE HOUSEKEEPING

Introduction: The Construction (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations require that sites be maintained in good order. Poor housekeeping is a common, but easily preventable, cause of accidents.

Main points:

- There should be a place for everything, and everything should be in its place.
- Do not rely on others to clean up – they won't.
- Put tools away when not in use, as well as reducing a trip hazard it will keep them safe.
- If working with oils/lubricants then have some means of cleaning up any spillages at hand.
- Suspend power/light cables where practicable. Where not practicable avoid trailing them across walkways if possible.

Discussion points:

- Remove all nails from dismantled/unused timber – where not possible then hammer flat.
- Stack both stores and waste neatly – ensure that walkways/escape routes are not obstructed.
- Clean up waste as it is created; small waste can be bagged, larger waste stacked and then skipped as soon as is practicable.
- Use racks when storing lengths of pipe or timber. Where pallets are used then do not stack too high.
- If working at height then loose objects must not be left on walkways, platforms, etc, where they could fall and injure persons below.
- Beware muddy sites - these will greatly increase risk of slips. Keep footwear as clean as is reasonably practicable; ensure loose mud is removed prior to climbing ladders, etc.
- Try and allocate a set period each day to general housekeeping (possibly at the end of the day?)

IF YOU THINK AND ACT SAFELY, THE NEXT LIFE YOU SAVE COULD BE YOURS!

Notes:

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