

Section 47  
Brieser  
Construction  
SH&E  
Manual

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The purpose of this procedure is to prevent tools, materials, equipment and other items from being dropped from heights to a lower elevation or to grade. Dropped items pose serious and potentially fatal consequences if not addressed and mitigated.

**Falling Object  
Prevention**

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		2-19-18	Falling Object Prevention
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CROSS REFERENCE:	OSHA General Duty Clause 29 CFR 1910.28 Duty to have fall protection & falling object protection		

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## Falling Object Prevention Policy Brieser Construction

### Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to prevent tools, materials, equipment and other items from being dropped from heights to a lower elevation or to grade. Dropped items pose serious and potentially fatal consequences if not addressed and mitigated.

### Scope

This procedure applies to any work performed by BRIESER and/or sub-contract personnel in any area where elevated work takes place and where potential for falling objects exist.

### Definitions

**Dropped object** - Any object, with the potential to cause death, injury, equipment, or environmental damage that falls from its previous static position under its own weight

**Elevated Work** – For the purpose of this program, any work performed at 6 ft. or more above the ground is considered elevated work or where persons could work or pass underneath.

**JSA - Job Safety Analysis** - is used to document the hazards and what safe guards are in place for a specific job. This documentation is filled out and communicated to workers before the job begins. This documentation shall be unique to that job and be posted along with the work permit at the job site. Brieser Construction currently uses a JSA form called, TSTI (Total Safety Task Instruction)

**Barricades** – For this program, barricades are a protection tool to notify personnel of a “Drops Zone” hazard. Drops zones must be taped off with “Drop Zone” tape and/or constructed and tagged under the elevated work area in a way to ensure personnel will NOT ENTER a danger zone of potential falling objects. The barricaded area under the work zone shall have four sides and tags must be attached to all sides of entry. The tag must identify the originator, hazard, and date of erection. Unauthorized personnel shall keep away from these danger zones. knowledge and ability necessary to fulfill the responsibilities set forth in this policy

### Responsibilities

*The Program Administrator: Brieser Safety Manager*

This person is responsible for:

- Issuing and administering this program and making sure that it satisfies all applicable federal, state and local requirements.

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- Conducting a periodic review of this program.

*Project Managers, Superintendents and Foremen*

These people are responsible for:

- Ensuring that employees are trained in this policy before working in the host facility where falling object policies are in place
- Conducting a job hazard analysis such as the Brieser TSTI before work starts to identify all falling object hazards
- Selecting the appropriate dropped object prevention tools. Such as tool lanyards, canopies or netting.

*Human Resources*

These people are responsible for:

- Maintaining training records for all employees included in the training sessions

*Employees*

- Knowing this procedure and ensuring falling objects are considered and mitigation is documented on the Brieser TSTI/Fall Protection Permit.
- Inspect all drop prevention tools/systems before use and ensure they are properly installed onto tools.
- Ensure lanyards, attachment points and wristbands allow you to use the tool with little to no interference.
- Do not need modify the tool to effectively attach them. Products like D-rings, self-vulcanizing tape, tool cinch attachments and quick spins and rings can complement the design and functionality of the tool without altering them.
- Tools over five pounds should be secured to a fixed structure or anchor point approved by the site and that is safe to use as a tether.
- Pay attention to the load rating. For example, if a tether that is load rated for five pounds is connected to an attachment point rated for two pounds, the load rating or the lesser of the two components should be followed.
- Ensure you are trained on any equipment used including Dropped Object Prevention Tools
- Following established work procedures as directed by the supervisor
- Reporting any unsafe conditions or acts to the supervisor
- Knowing how and when to report exposure incidents

## **General**

Dropped objects are a serious risk on construction sites with multiple contractors. To help reduce that risk, Brieser has established this program to be used at any site where multiple contractors are present, and workers are in an environment in which you're at risk of being hit by something that falls.

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## Procedure

- At the start of the day, a Brieser established employee shall ensure that an assessment of the risk of falling object are included during the TSTI meeting.
- For those jobs where the assessment identifies a potential for falling objects, dropped object preventative measures, such as lanyards, barricades, tethered tools & netting shall be documented in the TSTI and implemented in the field.
- If other work crews and/or different contractors are working in the same area, at elevations above each other, each groups CUSTOMER Liaison or their designee will determine which work crew has priority.
- Crews working over each other should be avoided and is only acceptable when special falling prevention measures have been implemented and approved by the Brieser site Supervisor.
- The use of 5-gallon metal buckets for lifting/moving objects are not allowed except when double nine wire is used as a handle and only to raise and lower demolition debris, concrete, grout, etc. Bolt bags or other tool bags specifically made for hoisting of tools will only be used. Items that exceed one and one-half length of the container used for hoisting will not be permitted.
- Good housekeeping is always the first line of defensive

## Physical Barriers

Where work activities cannot be coordinated to eliminate work above another work activity and a potential for falling objects exist, a physical barrier such as roof/bulkheads, debris netting or other control measures may be used to protect the work crews below.

Examples of physical barriers are, but not limited to:

- Fencing
- Netting
- Toe boards
- Bulk heads
- Fire Blanket
- Plastic Sheeting

Plastic, fire blanket, or similar sheeting material of good repair shall be used to prevent items from falling through grating or scaffold decks when the potential exists. This shall be placed in a way that would cover a large enough area to be effective and will be maintained *to* prevent tripping hazards.

Ensure toe boards are installed on all scaffolding. This includes openings in scaffolds around pipes or other equipment where gaps can occur. Debris netting will also be required on scaffolds.

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## Barricades

Use of barricade DANGER tape is required for all overhead work. Tags will be attached to the barricade bearing the nature of work and labeled, "OVERHEAD WORK", name of the person who barricaded the area, date and company. The area barricaded should include the potential fall area but should not be so large to hamper work traffic in the area. Mass barricading is not allowed.

The use of barricades "only", i.e. if tool falls no one will be in the area must be approved by safety and only in extreme situations.

Barricades "only" are not allowed, if there is a potential to damage customer process equipment or instrumentation.

No unauthorized personnel can be within a barricaded "drops zone" while overhead work is going on.

In situations where work crews and or different contractors are utilizing the same barricade, each work group shall tag barricade to ensure the barricade is NOT REMOVED before all the work is completed.

- Each work group MUST COMMUNICATE to the other groups that they are using the barricade and when their work is done they will remove their tag. As each group completes their task, they MUST NOTIFY the remaining work groups that they are done and they are removing their tag.
- When the last group has completed their work and NO OTHER TAGS are on the barricade, the last work crew can remove the barricade.
- If a tag remains on the barricade, and the other work crew cannot be contacted; DO NOT REMOVE the barricade. Brieser site supervision must be notified of this situation.

When cranes are used to hoist objects, the lift area shall be barricaded off. If the area to be barricaded is too large, one or more spotters will be used to warn people and direct them away from the lift area. These spotters will use horns to communicate to the people working the area that a lift is about to begin. Items that are lifted must be rigged.

## Tethering

These tools either have built-in connection points placed by the manufacturer or can be retrofitted with connection points. Next, the tools are connected to a lanyard. This solution not only applies to small hand tools, but also can be used for tools and small pieces of equipment that weigh up to 80 pounds, such as rivet busters, portable generators, etc.

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Tools that weigh more than five pounds shall never be tied-off to a person. The weight of the tool could cause serious injury by pulling a worker over an edge or dislocating and breaking joints and bones.

Always utilize 100% tie-off if handing a tool off to another worker

Proper training to install and use tethering devices is absolutely a requirement before use

If tools are to be used on the external portion of a protected structure, the tool must be securely attached so that the tool cannot fall to a lower level if dropped.

### **Recordkeeping & Training**

- A copy of this policy is located on Brieser's Website
- Brieser will ensure that each affected employee with respect to training can demonstrate knowledge and understanding of;
  - Falling Object hazards associated with elevated work
  - Proper use, storage and maintenance of tethered tools
  - The contents of this policy