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**SAFETY IS AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR FUTURE.**

Everything starts with Safety at IEC

**Avoiding Falls from Vehicles**

Toolbox Talk # 5035

Every year hundreds of people risk serious injury falling from vehicles. This talk sets out the basic steps you can take to prevent falls while loading and unloading vehicles.

**Causes of Falls**

* Slipping and falling from loads and access steps and ladders
* Broken ropes or torn sheets can cause overbalancing.
* Inappropriate footwear
* Lack of awareness and training

**What do I Need to Do?**

* As with all work at height, there are basic steps you should take to reduce the chances of people falling and being injured.
* If you can avoid the need for work at height then do so.
* When you can’t avoid working at height you must take steps to prevent falls.
* If there are any remaining risks of falls you should take steps to minimize them.

**Safety Checklist**

Addressing the issues covered in the following checklist you will be going a long way towards tackling the problem of falls from vehicles.

* Always use all equipment provided to avoid work at height if available.
* Don’t jump from vehicles or loads.
* Report damaged, loose or inadequate steps and handholds - ensure that steps are safe for you to use.
* Report slippery surfaces, for example those that are oily or greasy.
* Keep the vehicle clean and free of loose debris - avoid creating tripping hazards.
* Wear suitable footwear for the job.
* Ensure steps and work areas are well lit.
* Use edge protection on tail-lifts (where it is fitted).
* Do not walk backwards near the rear or side of the vehicle bed.
* Only use equipment such as ropes, straps, curtains, sheets, nets etc if you are sure, it is well maintained and is in a good state of repair.

Following these basic steps will make you more aware of your own safety as well as the safety of others when working on or around vehicles.

Please read and understand this important document and sign on the reverse side that you have done so.

YOUR SIGNATURE ON THE REVERSE SIDE INDICATES THAT YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT.

Phone 614-473-1050 email: JVan@IECCentralOH.org website: [www.ieccentraloh.org](http://www.ieccentraloh.org)

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Attendance – Toolbox Talk

Company / Employer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Topic: Avoiding Falls from Vehicles

# I have read and understand Toolbox Talks, topic as shown, on date indicated.

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