THE LAST RESORT

The standard on Personal Protective Equipment, (PPE) requires each employer to assess the workplace to determine whether foot, head, eye and face, fall or hand injury hazards exist in their work place. Based on the determinations made during the assessment, appropriate protective devices for particular hazards are to be selected. Regulations require the employer to be responsible for providing PPE wherever it is necessary to eliminate or minimize employee exposure to the hazard, and to train employees in the proper use of assigned PPE. Proof of compliance with the hazard assessment is verified through written documentation. Keep one thing in mind while performing your Hazard Assessment. It is often overlooked that PPE is a last resort. You should first exhaust any engineering or procedural changes that would eliminate the exposure. Examples would be erecting a physical barrier between the hazard and employees, or replacing a toxic substance with one more user friendly. If these efforts fail, or are not practical, then PPE comes into the picture. Not all hazards can be eliminated . . . but far more are candidates then you might imagine. Create a Hazard Assessment form consisting of various exposures. The form can be divided into different sections, each covering an exposure. One section for instance would be Head Protection. Jobs with potential hazards to the head would be anytime that your roofers are working below other workers using tools or materials that could fall. Jobs working around power lines. The section should be broken down to include various head exposures with "yes" "no" check boxes to indicate that during the assessment it was determined that that particular hazard exist. Consideration should be given to the basic hazard categories, such as: impact, penetration, compression, chemical, heat, and particulate, and light (optical) radiation. Your form should have room to describe the hazard, and a space for recommended physical or procedural changes, or ultimately the selected PPE. Use your form during your walk-through survey of the areas on your job sites that are in question to help you evaluate the tasks performed during various types of roofing operations. Once completed, file these and retain them until your job procedures or material uses change, rendering them obsolete. In it's most basic form, a Hazard Assessment form asks the questions: What can go wrong here? What can we do to eliminate, or minimize that exposure? What PPE could we use to minimize employee exposure when all other efforts fail?

SAFETY MEETING

COMPANY NAME:_____

Conducted by:_____ Date:_____

Employees Attending

Name / Signature

FALLING OBJECTS

Hard hats are a good idea whenever you're around the job site. Materials, tools, equipment, and even workers can fall, and if any of them land on you, you can be seriously injured. Use extreme caution when stacking items on a roof. Remember that there may be people walking or working under you. Avoid tall stacks that can shift and tip over easily. All materials should be stacked on a secure base. Limit the amount of material or tools you stack on a roof. If you're not going to complete the job in one continuous stint, only stack what you will use and replenish later. The more material you have up there, the greater the chance some of it may come down. It's not unlikely that if one stack goes, it'll take the others with it. A pile of broken tiles on the ground has a way of cutting the profit from a job. Of course when doing a re-roof and material is delivered roof-top, it makes sense to work around it, as bringing material up and down creates a greater exposure to injury. Never throw materials or tools. When moving material or equipment from one level to another, use containers or buckets and hand lines. Never carry tools or material while climbing a ladder. When the load is being moved, be sure to stand to the side, clear of the load. Don't stand directly under them. If a load cannot be placed in a container, make sure it is securely attached to the line. When you go up on a roof, take only the tools that you will need for the job, and don't allow either your tools or materials to fall over the edge. Whenever working at lower levels under other activities, try to stay alert to falling objects. Always wear your hard hat . . . it could save your life. Block off the area under your work zone. This will save others from injury, and protect you from liability should it be your tool that falls.

These instructions are provided as guidelines only, and are not intended as a substitute for Local, State or Federal regulations.

MSDS Reviewed: Substance:_____

Presented by:_____ Date:_____

Please print your company name here and name of person who conducted meeting

_____/_____

Please cut out and train your employees.