



Falling Object Protection - Unsecured Object

Incident Description: On 4-25-2016 two employees were working on tank builders scaffolding, tacking a horizontal when they ran out of whip. As the employees moved the LN25 their lead that was entangled on a 5 gallon bucket. They pulled the lead. This caused the bucket to tip over. A 9-inch grinder had been placed inside the bucket and fell out of the bucket, off the scaffold system and landed on the ground approximately 40 feet below the employees. No one was working below the scaffold system. No injuries were sustained.



This is the grinder after it had fallen 40 feet to the floor of the tank. There were no injuries.

Lessons Learned:

- ✓ The Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) should address potential securing all items used at heights.
- ✓ Consideration should always be given to type of container when "storing" materials. (i.e. Using a tray or canvas bag vs. a bucket)
- ✓ Tools at an elevated work level shall be secured when not in use to prevent them from falling.

Immediate Observations:

- ✓ Items placed on scaffolds systems must be secured to prevent them from falling.
- ✓ When leads are stuck verify why they are stuck before pulling on the lead.
- ✓ When possible use an active method (i.e. toe boards, snow fence, etc.) to keep objects from falling off scaffold systems.

Safety Performance Tool to Prevent Future Occurrence:

Personal Safety Assessment

Just prior to starting any work task:

- ✓ Look up and down and all around your work area
- ✓ Identify what are the hazards in the area
- ✓ Identify what/how you could get hurt
- ✓ Identify what is different

Then take time to understand and mitigate any hazards. Call a Time Out if appropriate.