

# AGC Tool Box Safety Talk

## WORKING AND DRINKING ALCOHOL

### INTRODUCTION

1. Review any accidents or “near accidents” from the past week.
2. Describe the hazards of the work as they relate to your project. Explain or show the SAFE way of doing the job.
3. Give the TOOL BOX SAFETY TALK

Drinking alcohol on the job is not permitted. In many workplaces, 20 to 25% of accidents involve intoxicated people injuring themselves and innocent victims. Consider these facts:

- Those who drink on the job are at risk not only to themselves but to every employee on the site.
- Drinking on the job could lead to disciplinary action and ultimately, job loss.
- Drinking during off-duty hours can affect a person’s ability to perform at work. If a worker drinks heavily close to the time he or she is scheduled to report to work judgment and reaction times may become compromised.
- Signs of a drinking problem include habitual drinking to calm nerves or alter mood; irritable, resentful, or unreasonable behavior when not drinking; increased tardiness and absenteeism; missing work without notifying management in advance; excessive sick leave due to alleged illness; and increasing errors and a drop in work performance.
- Alcohol abuse not only impairs one’s ability to work, it can also affect a person’s health and relationships with family and friends.
- Help is available for employees with drinking problems, either through company Employee Assistance Plans or family physicians.

