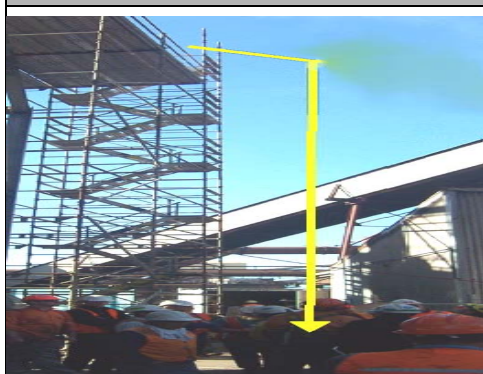


## REPEAT SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS No. 8 DROPPED OBJECTS



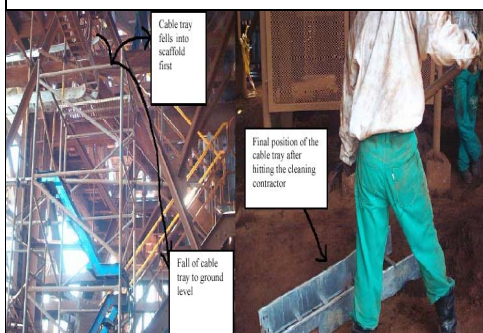
### DROPPED HAMMER HEAD

During scaffolding activities the head of a hammer came off and fell 15 meters to the ground, landing between two workers.

*Basic causes included:*

- Head came off hammer. The hammer was worn and the shaft had previously been refitted to the head.
- No overhead protection for people working below.
- No policy for managing contractor hand tools.

<http://significantincidents.bhpbilliton.net/fndItem.asp?id=486&Type=Incident>



### BROKEN ARM FROM FALLING OBJECT

A contractor suffered a broken arm when he was hit by a section of cable tray that fell from a height of 5 m. The contractor was outside the safety barricade area. *Basic causes included:*

- Non-compliance with existing site standard for lifting and securing.
- Safety barricade tape partially removed, inadequate barrier.
- Lack of coordination among work groups in the same area.

<http://significantincidents.bhpbilliton.net/fndItem.asp?id=1188&Type=Incident>

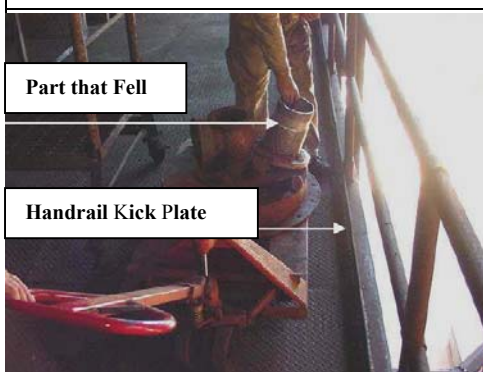


### FALL OF REFRACTORY TO GROUND

During demolition work a 5 kg piece of refractory fell out of a chamber and bounced past steel mesh barricade falling 11m to the ground floor of the roaster building. *Basic causes included:*

- Failure to identify and address the risk of falling material.
- Inadequate building edge protection for working at heights.
- Failure to implement corrective actions from similar incidents.

<http://significantincidents.bhpbilliton.net/fndItem.asp?id=1152&Type=Incident>



### UNCONTROLLED FALL OF EQUIPMENT

Equipment parts were being moved on the 6 floor of the roaster building. The parts were loaded directly on to the forks of a pallet trolley, without a pallet. One of the parts over balanced and rolled over the kick plate and fell to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor below. *Basic causes included:*

- Inadequate barrier to prevent object falling.
- The movement of equipment at height not considered in JSA.
- Load not secured.

<http://significantincidents.bhpbilliton.net/fndItem.asp?id=486&Type=Incident>

### Key Lessons For Management Include:

- Provide clear guidelines for the use barricades to prevent people entering potential “Drop Zones”. Whenever possible provide overhead protection from objects falling objects.
- Sites must implement controls that meet the requirements of the Fatal Risk Control Protocol for Working at Heights.
- Planning, preparation and risk assessment must include strategies to prevent objects falling.

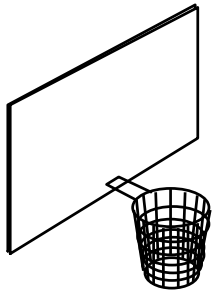
### Key Lessons for Individuals Include:

- Always erect barricades to prevent people entering areas where there is a risk from falling objects.
- Always ensure equipment is fit for purpose and inspect portable power and hand tools with more than one component to ensure they will not come apart during use (eg. hammer head flying off handle).
- Be familiar with and always follow site procedures for working at height.

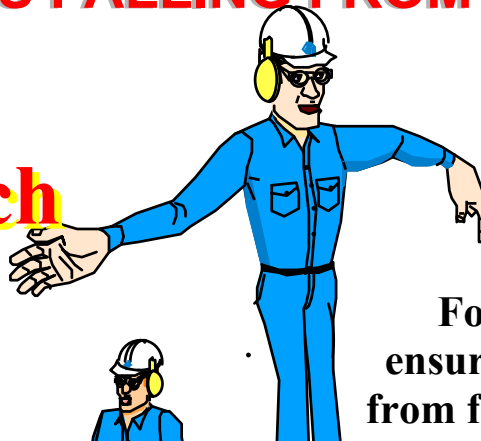


The following Coach and Audit sheets provide advice on controlling Dropped Objects

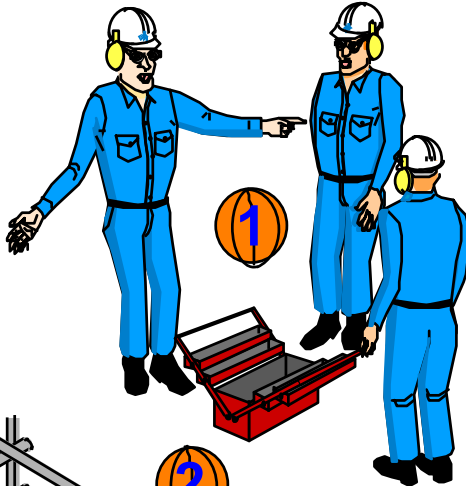
# OBJECTS FALLING FROM ABOVE



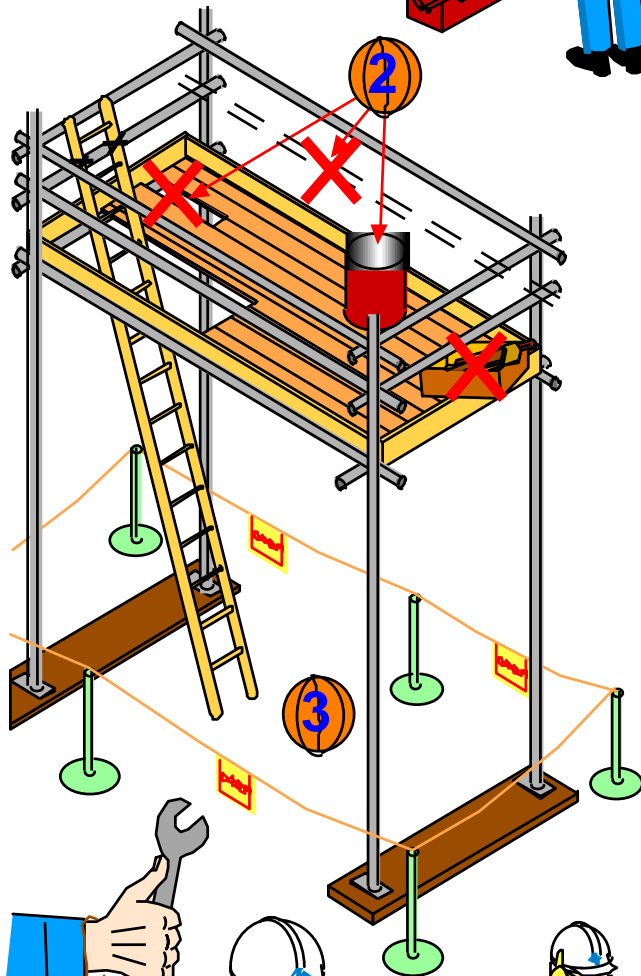
## Coach



Follow these steps to help ensure objects are prevented from falling and injuring others



**1** Identify the hazards using a Job Safety Analysis (JSA)



**2** Ensure you work safely when working at height to ensure you or objects do not fall, this includes:

- providing a **SAFE SYSTEM OF WORK**
- material and equipment to be secured whilst dismantling, lifting or moving
- providing a catch scaffold or safety net under the work areas if required
- all scaffolding to be built to correct standards
- all gaps in handrails and floors to be covered
- use of suitable bins for off-cuts, welding rod stubs, nuts and bolts etc. to prevent them rolling off
- use of lanyards/wrist straps on hand tools
- wearing of a chin strap on your safety hat
- Check portable power and hand tools to ensure they won't come apart during use (eg. hammer head flying off handle)

**3** Provide adequate barricades and warning signs

**4** Keep work site tidy at all times

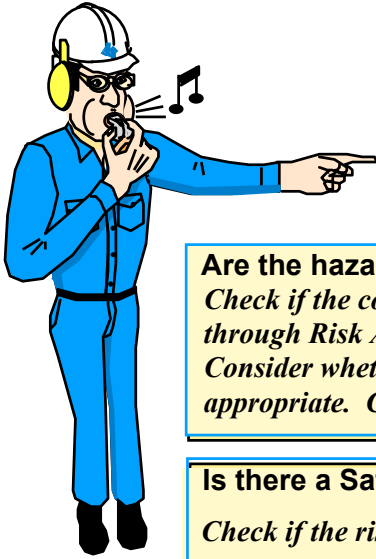
**5** If you can't meet these requirements; **STOP** the job and see your Supervisor



Wrist & Chin Straps



# OBJECTS FALLING FROM ABOVE



## Audit

YES NO

**Are the hazards identified?**

*Check if the consequences are understood and the hazards identified through Risk Assessment / Job Safety Analysis (JSA). Consider whether the control measure for each hazard is the most appropriate. Consider its level of risk.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Is there a Safe System of Work to prevent objects falling?**

*Check if the risk of anything falling can be eliminated by doing the job at ground level.*

*Check if appropriate Personal Safety Equipment is being used.*

*Check that all material and equipment are secure.*

*Check suitable bins are provided for small, loose objects such as off-cuts, welding rod stubs, nuts and bolts etc.*

*Check that all hand tools are secure or that they are restrained from falling by the use of a lanyard or wrist strap.*

*Consider the use of a catch scaffold or safety net under the work area. Note: all scaffolding is to be installed to local standards by competent persons.*

*Check that all portable power and hand tools will not come apart during use*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Is the area adequately barricaded and warning signs displayed?**

*Check if area below is adequately barricaded and warning signs or flags positioned to prevent injury to anyone walking or working near the area.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------

**Is the work area tidy?**

*Check if the work area is tidy and that all loose material, pieces of scrap, unwanted tools and equipment are removed and positioned out of the way. Large equipment should be left at ground level.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------



	YES	NO
SCORE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>