TOOLBOX TALKS

***Hard Hats!***

The hard hat was invented in 1919 by Edward W. Bullard. When is an ANSI-approved hard hat required? OSHA requires hard hats when employees are working in areas where there is a possible danger of head injury from impact, or from falling or flying objects, or from electrical shock and burns, shall be protected by protective helmets. Here are some ways to stay safe *every day.*

* Use the knob on the back of the hard hat to adjust the fit of the hard hat to the employee’s head
  + The hard hat should be snug to the employee’s head to prevent movement/shifting when employee is working.
* Do not wear hard hat backwards unless the manufacture allows it.
* Do not drill holes or insert screws into your hard hat it can weaken the integrity of the hard hat.
* Inspect your hard hat daily look for the following:
  + Dents, cracks, tears or holes in the shell.
  + Inspect the suspension of your hard hat.
  + Brittleness or dullness of the shell resulting from excessive exposure to sun or chemicals.
  + If your hard hat shows signs of any of the above please replace.
* Compress your hard hat from both sides, approximately 1 inch, to check for elasticity, the shell of the hard hat should bounce back and be as elastic as new.
* Clean you hard hat using mild soap or water, do not use a solvent to clean your hard hat, the chemicals could damage the structural integrity of the hard hat.