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Hand & Arm Safety

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Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions on the job site. For additional Toolbox Talks, please visit SAFETY.CAT.COM.

TOPIC: Hand & Arm Safety

Potential Hazards

- Skin absorption of harmful substances.
- Chemical, thermal, or electrical danger.
- Bruises, abrasions, cuts, punctures, fractures, or amputations.

Selecting Protection

- Select protection based on the hazard and operation involved.
- Inspect gloves before each use to ensure that they are not torn, punctured, or made ineffective in any way.
- Fill gloves with water and roll the cuffs tightly to help reveal any pinhole leaks.
- Do not use gloves that are discolored or stiff. This may indicate deficiencies caused by excessive use or degradation from chemical exposure.

Types of Gloves

- Leather - Protect against sparks, moderate heat, blows, chips, and rough objects.
- Aluminized - Provide reflective protection against heat.
- Aramid-Fiber and Synthetic - Protect against heat and cold.
- Fabric - Protect against dirt, slivers, chafing, and abrasion.
- Coated-Fabric - For handling wire and chemical lab containers.
- Butyl - Made of synthetic rubber and protect against a variety of chemicals; resist oxidation, ozone corrosion, and abrasion.
- Latex - Resist abrasions caused by grinding and polishing, and protect from water solutions.
- Neoprene - Made from synthetic rubber and protect against hydraulic fuels, gasoline, alcohols, organic acids, and alkalis.
- Nitrile - Provide protection from certain solvents and are intended for jobs requiring dexterity and sensitivity; offer protection against oils, greases, acids, caustics, and alcohols.

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants:

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