Toolbox Talk: Working at Height

Site: _____ Date: _____

Led by: _____

Why this matters

Falls are one of the most common causes of serious harm on New Zealand construction sites. A fall of five metres or more is particular hazardous work that must be notified to WorkSafe New Zealand at least 24 hours before it starts (except on a residential building of up to 2 full storeys, from a ladder only, or for minor or routine maintenance), but people are seriously hurt in shorter falls every week.

The plan for today

- Eliminate the need to work at height where we can, by doing work at ground level first
- Where we cannot, use edge protection, a scaffold or a work platform before any harness
- Check the edge protection and platforms are complete and secure before anyone goes up
- Keep the area below clear and use exclusion zones so nothing dropped can hit anyone

Your part

- Do not start work at height until the controls are in place
- Tell the supervisor straight away if edge protection is missing or damaged
- Clip on where a restraint or arrest system is required, and check it first
- Stop and speak up if something does not look right

Talk it over

- What are the height risks on this task today?
- Is the edge protection complete? Who checks it?
- Where is the assembly point and the first aid kit?

Sign-on

Everyone who took part in this talk:

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____