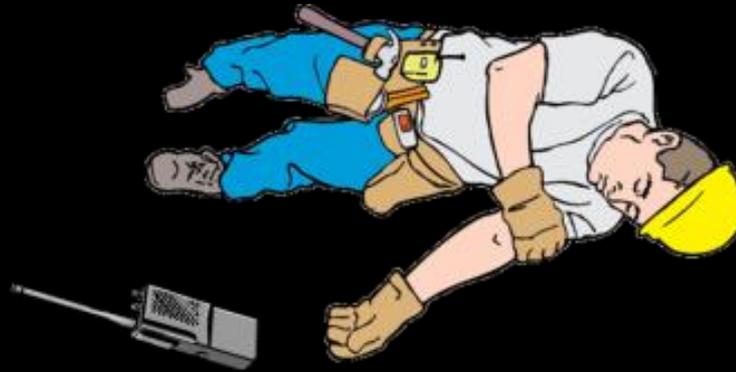


# Lone Worker Safety

## The Challenges and Solutions



# Why talk about this?

You have had an incident?

You think you are at risk for having an incident?

OSHA is asking more frequently about  
Lone Worker Risk Plans

# What increases the risk?

The average age of the worker is increasing.

Group	1992	2002	2012	2022
Total Years	37.1	39.8	41.9	42.6

According to the Census Bureau's 2012 population projections, the U.S. population is expected to continue to grow slowly and to grow older.

# What increases the risk?

The economy's demand for efficiency....

.....doing more with less.

# What is a Lone Worker?



Lone  
Worker



Working  
Alone

# What is an Employer's Responsibility?

**OSHA 1915.84(a)** Except as provided in § 1915.51(c)(3) of this part, whenever an employee is working alone, such as in a confined space or isolated location, the employer shall account for each employee:

**1915.84(a)(1)** Throughout each work shift at regular intervals appropriate to the job assignment to ensure the employee's safety and health; and



# What is an Employer's Responsibility?

**1915.84(a)(2)** At the end of the job assignment or at the end of the work shift, whichever occurs first.

**1915.84(b)** The employer shall account for each employee by sight or verbal communication.



# What is the Employer's Responsibility?

- USA Federal Regulations:
- **OSHA Section 5(a)(1)** (General Duty Clause) to furnish to employees' employment and a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to their employees.

# What is an Employer's Responsibility?

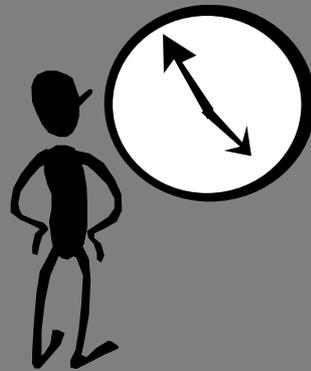
Throughout each work shift “**at regular intervals**” appropriate to the job assignment to ensure the employee's safety and health... the employer shall account for each employee



# The Challenges

What is a “*regular interval*” ?

What would be acceptable amount of time to wait for help?



Can you afford to wait ?

# The Mentality of a Lone Worker

- Lone workers are different.
- Successful lone workers want to be lone workers for a lot of different reasons...can you think of a few?
- They may not desire the social interaction and support that other people do.
- They don't have as much need for social interaction.

# Training the Lone Worker

It is not how they are managed, but how they are selected, developed and reinforced. Encouraging ownership for safe practices can enhance employees' ownership for their job as a whole.

Rather than attempting to command and control the lone worker, more effective... is to encourage workers to value safety for themselves.

## IMPORTANT

Lone Worker procedures and systems need to be treated no different than standard requirements of boots...helmet... FR clothes...glasses ...ear muffs..... Gloves.....**Lone Worker Device.**

PPE

is

NOT OPTIONAL

# Schools of Thought

# Solutions

Video

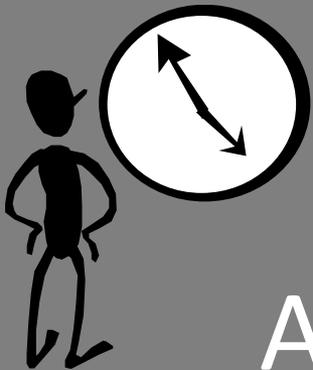
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gqdi17YObkU>



10:00 AM- check-in ok



10:05 AM – waiting for 11:00 check-in



A lot can happen in 1 hour

Check-In and then Check-Out Systems

# Solutions

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BysRTzZhAqA>

# Other Solutions

-Two-Way Radios

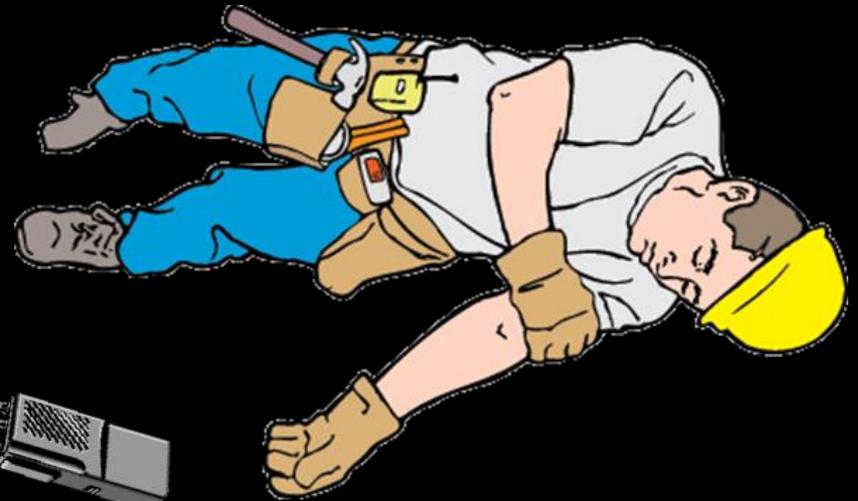
Voice Communications

Tilt Switches

-Cellular Apps

Panic Alarms

Check-In



# Planning

## Assess the risk

Does the workplace present a special risk to the lone worker?

Can the employee safely exit and enter the workplace?

Can temporary access equipment, such as portable ladders or trestles, be safely handled by one person?

Can all machinery and goods involved in the workplace be safely handled by one person?

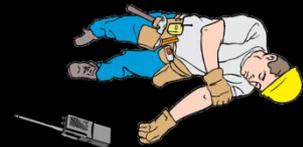
Are any chemicals or hazardous substances being used that may pose a risk to the worker?

Does the work involve lifting objects too large for one person?

Is more than one person needed to operate essential controls for the safe running of equipment or workplace transport?

Are young, pregnant or disabled workers at risk if they work alone?

If the lone worker's first language is not English, are arrangements in place to ensure clear communication, especially in an emergency?



# Mitigate the Risk

# #1

✓ Should there really be a second person-helper?

# Mitigate the Risk

If using a check-in then check-out procedure:

**Are you** waiting to hear from them?

or

**Are they** waiting to hear from you?

**Who** is responsible to call?

Has there been signed acceptance of the Lone Worker procedure?

**~ Can you afford to wait? ~**

# Mitigate the Risk

If using a immediate **call-out** system:

1. Who is receiving the call?
2. Is there an establish call handling procedure?
3. Is the system tested regularly
4. How often is it tested?

# Mitigate the Risk

IMPORTANT

IMPORTANT

**Never** use an **automatic call-out**/telephone dialer to  
**call directly to 9-1-1**

*Without prior permission from your local PSAP*

***Alternatively***- use an intermediary such as:

- Your Own Security
- Commercial Security Monitoring Center

IMPORTANT

IMPORTANT

# Types of Systems

## Cell Phone Applications-

- Do you have solid cellular service?
- Do you want to pay a monthly/yearly subscription fee for each device?

## Designed Solutions-

- Provides known solid signal coverage.
- No monthly/yearly subscription fee for each device?



# The Summary

## Challenges & Solutions

# Training the Lone Worker

## IMPORTANT

Lone Worker procedures and systems need to be treated no different than standard requirements of boots...helmet... FR clothes...glasses ...ear muffs..... Gloves.....**Lone Worker Device.**

## IMPORTANT

# Schools of Thought

- Check-In and then Check-Out Systems

- Immediate Notification Systems

*120 seconds or less*

# Assess and Mitigate the Risk

# #1



Should there really be a second person-helper?

?

Thank You