

Toolbox Talk # 7.02 – Defective Tools

The basic safety rule about defective tools is, **Don't Use Them!**

Defective tools are dangerous. Using defective tools causes accidents.

- Slipping wrenches have caused people to fall from ladders or scaffolds.
- Loose handles on hammers and picks have resulted in serious head and body injuries.
- Workers have lost eyes from using chisels with mushroomed heads.

You know the defects you may run into with small hand tools.

- Loose, split, cracked, or crooked handles.
- Mushroomed heads on chisels.
- Files without handles
- Worn-out jaws on wrenches.

REMEMBER TO CHECK ALL TOOLS BEFORE USING THEM AND TO TURN IN ALL DEFECTIVE TOOLS.

Power tools, whether powered with electricity, air or gasoline, require skill and complete attention from the user even when the tool is in top mechanical condition.

Injuries from hand-operated tools are usually serious. Perhaps the most common defect with power tools is a broken, displaced or inoperative guard. Guards are placed on equipment to prevent injuries. Using tools with inoperative or broken guards can lead to disaster.

Do not use:

- Electric-powered tools that have defective switches, poorly insulated cords, and no grounding.
- Air-powered tools and equipment that show up on the job with valves that will not completely open or close.
- Gasoline-powered tools that have a broken throttle.

To prevent accidents with defective tools, remember these three points: -

- Double-check all tools before you use them.
- Put a tag on any defective tools you find.
- Turn in all defective tools right away.

Never use a defective tool.

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Project: _____

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Company: _____

Other safety issues covered or comments from crew members:

Attendees:

| Name: (please print) | Signature: | Company: |
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