

How to Conduct a Tailgate Talk

A Tailgate Talk is a brief training session on a single safety topic, typically held around the tailgate of a truck or another convenient spot. It should last 10-15 minutes with a small group of workers.

KEY POINTS

- Choose one safety topic per session.
- Keep it short and concise.
- Hold sessions with 6-10 workers.
- Ensure the location is comfortable and safe.
- Allow time for questions and answers.
- Document the training.

CHOOSE SAFETY TOPICS

- Focus on recent events or ask employees for suggestions.
- Use newsletters and local news for additional ideas.

PLAN LOGISTICS

- Limit sessions to 6-10 workers.
- Hold sessions earlier in the week (avoid Monday mornings).
- Conduct sessions weekly, dedicating specific time for training.
- Keep sessions under 15 minutes.

PREPARE AND CONDUCT THE SESSION

- Include visual aids and handouts.
- Familiarize yourself with the materials beforehand.
- Keep the presentation informal and avoid technical jargon.
- Involve workers in the discussion.
- Allow time for questions and have workers sign a training acknowledgment sheet.



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Louisiana's Tailgate Talk Series

General PPE and Its Importance



The Louisiana Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) Center serves training needs of local transportation agencies.

We are part of the Louisiana Transportation Research Center (LTRC), which is a cooperative effort between the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and Louisiana State University (LSU).

Timely Safety Briefings

Keeping You Safe on the Job

What is PPE?

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) includes gear worn by workers to minimize exposure to workplace hazards. PPE is a crucial part of a safety program, but it doesn't eliminate hazards nor guarantee total protection. It should be used alongside other safety measures.

Your Responsibility

- Always use the correct PPE for the job.
- Inspect PPE before and after use.
- Maintain PPE: Clean, repair, and replace as needed.
- Store PPE properly—keep it clean, dry, and protected from sunlight and contaminants.

PPE protects you, but it's only effective when used properly.



PPE Selection Tips

Choosing the right PPE is vital for your safety. Follow these steps:

Match PPE to the Hazard – Choose PPE based on the specific risks you face.

Get Advice – Consult safety experts for guidance.

Consider Comfort – Ensure PPE is ergonomically designed for comfort and mobility.

Check Fit – PPE must fit properly to provide protection.

Maintain and Inspect Regularly – Keep your PPE in good condition through regular checks.

Training – Make sure you know how to properly use PPE.

Audit the Program – Regularly assess your PPE program's effectiveness.

Resources

19 Proven Reasons Why PPE is Important

<https://hsewatch.com/why-is-ppe-important/>

Worker Safety

<https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/workersafety/index.htm>

Tailgate Talk Resources

Louisiana LTAP

<https://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/ltap/tailgate-talks.html>

NLTAPA

<https://nltapa.org/informationexchange/nltapa-tailgate-talks/>

T2 Tailgate Talks

https://www.cti.uconn.edu/cti/T2_Tailgate_Talks.asp