



WEEKLY SAFETY TALK #3: TAILGATE DISCUSSION GUIDE

Harness Inspection and Expiration: What the Law Actually Requires

Foreman: work through these with the crew on site. Point at the actual roof, the actual gear. Then run the quick check and sign off.

TALK IT THROUGH (10 MINUTES, ON THE JOB SITE)

1 How often does OSHA require this harness to be inspected, and whose job is it?

Prompt: Before every use, by the worker wearing it (1926.502(d)(21)). ANSI/ASSP Z359.2 adds a written Competent Person inspection at least annually, and your manual usually shortens that to six months. Who ran ours last?

2 Does a safety harness expire on a calendar date?

Prompt: No compliance source sets a fixed expiration date. Condition and history determine the lifespan of a harness. Whose harness on this crew is oldest, and when did it last get a real look?

3 What makes the formal inspection different from the daily check?

Prompt: A Competent Person runs it and writes it down: serial number, date, result, and inspector name. If an inspector asked for our log right now, who could produce it?

4 A harness catches a fall and looks fine afterward. Now what?

Prompt: Out of service immediately until a Competent Person clears it (1926.502(d)(19)), and nearly every manufacturer says replace it. Where does out-of-service gear go on our truck so nobody grabs it by mistake?

5 Where do our harnesses live between shifts?

Prompt: Hung by the dorsal D-ring, dry, out of sunlight, away from chemicals and heat. Mildew is called out in the rule itself (1910.140(c)(18)). Be honest: where did this harness spend last night?

QUICK CHECK: CIRCLE THE ANSWERS AS A CREW

- A. OSHA requires a harness inspection: Once a year Before every use Every 6 months
- B. A harness that arrested a fall goes: Back to work if it looks fine Out of service immediately
- C. The written formal inspection is done by: Anyone on the crew A Competent Person

CREW SIGN-OFF (29 CFR 1926.503(b) requires written training certification)

NAME (PRINT)	SIGNATURE	DATE

Foreman / competent person: _____ Job site: _____ Date: _____

Key: A) Before every use (1926.502(d)(21)) B) Out of service immediately (1926.502(d)(19)) C) A Competent Person (ANSI/ASSP Z359.2)
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