

Task Planning and Risk Assessment

Effective planning and risk assessment will ensure appropriate resources and personnel are assigned for the task to eliminate or reduce the likelihood of a dropped object.



Always inspect the worksite prior to starting the job to eliminate pre-existing potential dropped objects, especially where recent activities have taken place or the worksite has been exposed to harsh environmental factors or dynamic forces.

Understand each phase of the task, the equipment and tools being used and the associated hazards and challenges (securing techniques, access etc).

Ensure any pre-lift inspection criteria is available and understood.

Identify and talk through task steps where it is more likely that a dynamic dropped object could occur and how this can be prevented.

Be realistic and specific in identifying potential dropped objects (tool, radio, hardware, debris, hard hat etc).

Consider the 'Cone of Exposure'; the potential path that a dropped object may take including deflections or routes through gaps and hatches to lower levels.

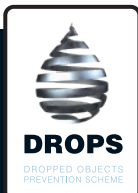
Take special care to identify and assess environmental factors such as weather, sea motion, movement, poor visibility etc.

Apply the DROPS Calculator to inform the risk assessment process on potential consequences to personnel, and also consider potential for dropped objects to cause damage to critical equipment and environment too.

Always seek further guidance where risk cannot be reduced by preventive measures.

Ensure all controls are clearly understood and take regular time outs to monitor and verify effectiveness.

Always apply Hierarchy of Control principles where the potential for a dropped object has been identified. Ensure Preventive engineered and administrative controls are in place and verified. Ensure robust mitigating controls are available implemented should the preventive controls fail.



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For further details of DROPS Guidance, Resources, Membership or Training:

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