

Company Name: _____ Dept: _____ Location: _____ Date: _____

#79

DEMOLITION

Safe demolition is as skilled if not more skilled than safe construction. The reason? - During demolition a lot more unpredictable things can happen and while that is O.K. if you are standing back and watching a wrecking ball do all the work, it is often necessary to demolish buildings or parts of buildings in a more orderly way.

The key to safe demolition is the same key used for safe construction - take a long look at each task, analyze the dangers and figure out the safest way to perform each task successfully, professionally and safely. Watch out for fall hazards especially if the building is an older one that has suffered through a few earthquakes and many aftershocks. It just isn't so obvious what there is that's up there that may be loose! Good housekeeping principles apply just as in construction - even more so. There's going to be a lot of debris, dust and sharp, jagged edges - everywhere you tread. Clean up, as often as possible, it makes all the difference. There will be plenty of dust - wear the proper masks - it's important.

Demolition of older buildings will usually encounter asbestos and lead. Asbestos dust can be deadly, let the hazardous materials specialists dispose of it. They are trained and the work is monitored to ensure everyone's well-being. Obey the warning signs and keep out of areas that are being cleared of these hazards. Safety rails and guardrails will need to be established during the demolition and there will be open stairwells, holes in floors and roofs where you least expect them. Adequate lighting is important and the power lines into and around the building need to be inspected to be sure there are no exposed electrical conductors caused by jagged debris.

Personal protective equipment is especially important during demolition operations. Hard hats, masks, eye protection, proper footwear, gloves to handle those sharp pieces of debris and glass and respirators for the hazardous materials experts. Safe demolition can be planned and executed safely, it takes care, forethought, patience and skill.

Meeting Conducted By:

Print Name

Signature

Meeting Attended By:

Document Filing Reference

Notes & Suggestions