

Lesson: Safety Preplanning

- Lesson Objectives:**
- Describe the five essential items that need to be addressed in safety preplanning.
 - Summarize specific preplanning procedures in the following area:
 - Excavation and trenches
 - Demolition and blasting
 - Cranes and power lines
 - Public liability planning

- Topics:**
- Areas to Address in Safety Preplanning
 - Specific Preplanning Procedures

Topic: Areas to Address in Safety Preplanning

This topic covers the five essential areas that need to be addressed in safety preplanning. Having completed this topic, you should be able to:

- List the six essential elements of a safety management strategy
- Identify common construction hazards that need to be addressed given a project
- Describe the subcontractor requirements under multiple-employer situations
- Define job hazard analysis and list the five steps to conduct a job hazard analysis
- Describe what safety issues need to be considered during purchasing

Topic summary:

Please take a moment to review these major points before you continue with the next topic.

- It is a good idea to hold a project meeting prior to beginning construction. This meeting should be used to discuss the entire safety program and define responsibilities. The safety program for the project should be in written form and should include safety policies, safety management strategies, and safety rules.
- The five main items to address in the meeting are:
 - Safety Management Strategies
 - Specific Hazards and Controls
 - Subcontractor Requirements
 - Job Hazard Analysis
 - Purchasing

Topic: Specific Preplanning Procedures

If you include safety in the early stages of the pre-job planning process, positive results naturally will follow. Reductions in the frequency and severity of incidents will transform into higher productivity, lower insurance costs, and a competitive advantage in bidding against other contractors for future projects. Therefore, safety preplanning should be listed as a line item in all project schedules.

This topic covers some of the areas where preplanning is necessary to ensure that hazards are addressed prior to work being performed. Note that the discussion is not all-inclusive. Having completed this topic, you should be able to:

- Describe safety considerations in planning excavations and trenches
- Explain safety considerations in planning demolition and blasting
- State safety considerations in planning working with or around cranes and power lines
- Describe safety considerations in public liability planning

Topic summary:

Please take a moment to review these key points before you continue with the next topic.

- When planning to dig an excavation or trench, consider these areas: soil conditions at the site, underground services, engineering options, equipment and protective structures, site organization, emergency planning, medical services and first aid, and competent person.
- When creating a demolition and blasting plan, consider these areas: procedures, engineering survey, utility location, medical services and first aid, and competent person.
- The time to take care of power line problems is during pre-job planning after the first site survey is made. Take care of the problem prior to the crane's arrival to avoid job delays and prevent incidents. When power lines are present on or near the site, the safety of the crane operation is the responsibility of the personnel in charge of the crane.
- Taking the proper actions immediately following an incident can go a long way toward minimizing false or exaggerated claims and controlling your insurance costs. Consider these issues as you make public liability planning: general precautions; transporting, unloading, and parking equipment; flaggers and backing operations; signing and barricading; and special hazards.