



## **Hanson Masonry & Concrete, LLC**

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# **Weekly Toolbox Talk**

## **Cell Phones on the Jobsite**

Cell phones are extremely popular because of their very fast, almost instant connection time. The need to communicate quickly and efficiently on construction sites is necessary. However, users must adhere to the cell phone safety procedures set forth by their company.

Cell phone distractions account for 2,600 deaths and 330,000 injuries in United States each year. Data reveal that a majority of construction fatalities related to the use of cell phones involved a person being backed over and crushed while talking on the cell phone. From these incidents, it appears that talking on the cell phone can not only be distracting but can also cause a block in view if the person is holding the phone up to his ear.

Per Hanson Masonry & Concrete, LLC's company policy, use of cell phones is prohibited except for business use by supervisory personnel, and shall not be used while operating any type of machinery. Prior approval is required from the project supervisor for any exceptions.

Eliminate all personal calls from your cell phone while you are on the clock, and never operate a piece of machinery while also using a cell phone, regardless of your position in the company. While on the job, your phone should be set to silent or vibrate in order to not disturb others.

### **Dangers of Improper Cell Phone Usage**

- Cell phone usage can cause inattention on the job site
- Co-workers can be distracted by others' cell phone usage
- Inattention and distraction may result in property damage or personal injury

### **Avoid Distractions**

- Never use a cell phone while operating equipment
- Never use a cell phone to send or receive text messages while operating equipment
- Store your cell phone in a location that will prevent its ring from startling you or anyone in the area
- Let calls go straight to voicemail to be retrieved at a later time

### **Be Aware of Hazards**

- Do not operate a cell phone near flammable liquid
- Turn off cell phones within 100 feet of any blasting area
- Know site-specific hazard areas associated with cell phone usage