



By **VICKI KASKUTAS, OTD, MHS, OT/L** - Washington University

Timing is Right for Foremen's Fall Prevention & Safety Communication Training

There are openings for Residential Foremen to participate in a new Fall Prevention & Safety Communication Training at the Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program (CJAP) this summer. Falls from height remain the leading cause of death and account for many injuries in Construction Workers. This training teaches Foremen to identify and abate fall risks at their worksites, and to provide Safety Mentorship and feedback to their crew members. Most importantly, participating Foremen will learn problem-solving methods to prevent falls from height throughout the home framing process.

OSHA's recent changes in the guidelines for Residential Construction will be reviewed, including new Fall Protection Equipment. This training will fulfill the CDC's 8-Hour Annual Safety Training Requirement. In order to participate, the Contractor and Foreman must consent to worksite visits by a

Carpenter Research Assistant Member of the CDC prior to and after the training to measure changes in worksite safety.

If you are interested in this Training or would like to learn more about it, contact Vicki Kaskutas from Washington University at (314) 286-1672 or (618) 830-6790, or by E-mail at kaskutasv@wustl.edu. Washington University has been working with the Carpenters' District Council, Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program, Residential Contractors, and Carpenter Members of the CDC to prevent falls from heights at Residential Construction sites. The training will be performed by Journey-Level Carpenter Trainers from the Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program who have recent Residential Foreman/Superintendent experience and Fall Protection expertise.

Please consider attending!

Local Contractor Takes Advantage of New Fall Prevention Technology Loaning Program

Gittemeier Therrien Construction was the first Contractor to take advantage of the new Fall Prevention Technology Loaning Program at the Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program (CJAP). Grant funds received by Washington University from the Center for Construction Research and Training were used to buy several state-of-the-art Fall Prevention Technologies to loan to Residential Contractors to evaluate if the system will be practical for their operations.

several Wall Walkers which they mount interiorly and use with 12-foot stretch boards for truss installation. Therrien states that these devices are well-liked by the work crews.

This is the exact result which Brad Evanoff, Researcher at Washington University who received the funding for this project, hoped for. Evanoff notes that the Fall Prevention Technologies in this loaning program are all described in OSHA's new Guidance Document for Residential Construction which was released mid-April. Evanoff states that, "This program gives Contractors an opportunity to try new equipment before making an investment, which is especially important amidst new Fall Protection Regulations and economic constraints". As of June 2011, the Residential Guidelines for Fall Protection are rescinded and Contractors must follow the Construction Standards described in 1926.

Information about the Wall Walker is available at <http://www.wallwalker.com/>. Information about the super anchor information is available at <http://www.superanchor.com/safetybar.html>. In addition, CJAP has a ReechCraft PowerPole system available for loaning. This is a motorized pump-jack pole which can be leaned onto the home at lower elevations and operated by one person with two power drills. For more information, go to <http://reechcraft.com/powerPole.asp>

This equipment is available for loan to Signatory Contractors on a trial basis. Contractors will be responsible for transporting the equipment and must pick up and return all systems to the Nelson-Mulligan Carpenters' Training Center located at 8300 Valcour, Affton Missouri, 63123, weekdays between the hours of 7 am and 3 pm. Contractors will also be responsible for any damage, loss, or theft of the products and components of the systems. There is a brief orientation and training overview before each system leaves the yard. Contractors must agree to train Carpenters who use the equipment. To make arrangements to borrow the equipment, please contact Mark Fuchs, CJAP Coordinator, at (314) 457-8300, Ext. 5607.



Jeff Therrien and Business Partner John Gittemeier noted they are very impressed with the equipment they borrowed through this program. According to Therrien, the Super Anchor Safety Bar, a truss-mounted anchor bar for personal fall arrest anchorage, "is the best thing that we have tried". These spreader bars span multiple trusses to provide secure personal fall arrest anchorage.

Therrien states that they plan to purchase several of these anchors for both 2x4 and 2x6 top chords. After borrowing the Wall Walker hanging scaffold system and using on several



builds, "we were sold", states Therrien. The Wall Walker suspends from the top plate or foundation wall and works for interior or exterior applications. It can be used to set trusses, install roof sheathing, and fascia. Therrien purchased

