

Fall Protection Equipment Loaning Through CJAP

Falls from height continue to be a leading cause of injury among carpenters in the residential construction industry. The St. Louis Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program has been involved in research with Washington University since 2004 in an effort to identify and avoid these specific hazards. More specifically, CJAP has redesigned and implemented a more hands-on and participatory approach to the use of innovative residential fall protection technology and devices. As a result of grant funds Washington University received from the Center for Construction Research and Training through the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, CJAP has acquired several of these innovative devices to make available on loan to signatory residential contractors for trial use.

The WallWalker System eliminates the need for makeshift scaffold in a variety of applications, from setting trusses to fascia and soffit work. The system is suspended from the top plate or foundation wall and works for interior or exterior applications. It meets OSHA standards and is constructed of lightweight aluminum. We have piloted the system with residential crews and found that it eliminates top plate work when setting trusses. We have 3 complete sets of WallWalkers with 12-foot pic board and handrails to loan to contractors, and 3 sets to be used interiorly which the contractor must provide their own pic board. For more information go to: <http://www.wallwalker.com/>

The Super Anchor Safety Bar is a truss-mounted anchor bar for personal fall arrest anchorage and truss spacing. The bars span across multiple trusses so the anchorage point is not on only one truss. These are built for 2 x 4 top chords. We have two sets to loan (6 bars per set), as they are must be used in tandem for correct installation. For more information go to: <http://www.superanchor.com/safetybar.html>

The ReechCraft PowerPole system is a motorized-version of the standard pump-jack pole system, more like “pump jacks on steroids”. This system is also designed to be OSHA compliant and can be set up and operated by one person. The system comes with two 20-foot pic boards and two drills to “pump it up”. We have one of these systems. For more information go to: <http://reechcraft.com/powerPole.asp>

This equipment is available for loan to signatory contractors on a trial basis. We would like to get it returned within a couple weeks, depending on the project, so many contractors will have an opportunity to check it out. Contractors will be responsible for transporting the equipment and must pick up and return all systems to the Nelson-Mulligan Training Center, 8300 Valcour, Affton Missouri, 63123, weekdays between the hours of 7:00 am and 3:00 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 Steve Bonagurio, 314/457-8300, extension 5645.