TOOLBOX TALK #47

Vital GRP

Welfare arrangement

Prepare: Quiet location? No distractions? Talk aids ready?

Reason: Adequate welfare facilities should be provided

on all sites.

Why: The provision of adequate toilets, wash basins,

drying rooms and rest areas are essential for

the well-being of site staff.

Outline: This talk will cover the factors which determine

whether site welfare facilities are adequate.

NOTES



General Welfare

- Enough toilets, wash basins, drying space and rest areas must be provided to cope with the number of operatives on site.
- Toilets and wash basins must be properly maintained and kept clean - hot and cold water must be provided.
- If you change out of 'street' clothes into working clothes a changing area should be provided with storage facilities for your 'street' clothes.
- Rest areas should include one or more rest rooms which must be arranged so that non-smokers are protected from the effects of cigarette smoke.

Q: What changing areas are available for your use on this site?

Operatives' Responsibilities

- Site staff should expect to use welfare facilities without finding them dirty, vandalised or covered by graffiti – leave them as you wish to find them.
- Use the appropriate rest area depending upon whether you are a smoker or not.
- Tell your supervisor if you are aware that welfare facilities are being deliberately damaged or otherwise misused.

Q: What are your responsibilities with respect to welfare facilities?

Q: What would you do if you saw a toilet block being vandalised?

TOOLBOX TALK #47

Vital GRP

NOTES

Welfare arrangement

Food Safety

- Larger sites may provide hot or cold food as part of welfare arrangements.
- All food must be stored, handled and prepared in hygienic conditions.
- Anyone preparing food for others must observe good standards of personal hygiene, not smoke in food preparations areas and report certain illnesses.
- Where a cooker or microwave oven is provided for you to prepare your own food ensure the food is thoroughly cooked – undercooked food can lead to food poisoning.
- Dispose of waste food safely. Do not encourage rat or other vermin.

Q: What is the danger to health from rats?

Do you have any questions for me?

—
—

Sources: Welfare at work - Guidance for employers on welfare provisions
Workplace health, safety and welfare. Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992. Approved Code of Practice and guidance - HSE