

Installation Case Studies

Class Reading - Review Learning Objectives

Course Description:

Each installation presents unique challenges for the installer. This module will help you understand the importance of installation safety by showcasing several installation case studies.

Learning Objectives:

At the close of this course, you will be able to:

1. Understand safety precautions in a variety of installations environments, including:
 - a. Remodel
 - b. New Residential
 - c. Multi-family
 - d. Commercial
2. Find out the keys to a successful and safe installation, which is often addressed in required training sessions.
3. Understand that there is no place for complacency in the stone industry.

Let's recap some of the highlights from the video:

Remolding Case Study:

- Most residential remodeling worksites will be contained to one floor.
- The primary problem for the installation crew is getting large stone pieces into the home without injury to the installers or damage to the customer's property.
- The installation crew should determine how many people will be needed to move stone without risking strains or sprains among the crew.
- The goal is to get the stone as close as possible to the cabinets for mounting.
- Tools and equipment that help residential installers include clamps, and lightweight buggies with balloon tires.
- Residential installers should account for:
 - Existing furniture in the home
 - Obstructions for the path of the stone
 - Correct number of people needed
 - Other trades that are involved prior to or after the stone installation
 - Equipment that could make the jobsite safer.



New Residential Case Study:

- Many new residential home construction sites have no paving and include muddy terrain or gravel driveways leading up to the house.
- General contractors often spread plywood panels around the entranceway so proper material handling tools can be used to move the stone pieces into the house.



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- In some cases, you may need to account for a lift crane to hoist materials to the floor where the material will be installed.
- Installation crews should be aware of the presence of other work crews and electrical wires that have been placed to connect power tools and other hazards.
- New single-family home kitchens are usually templated.

Multi-Family Apartments or Condominiums Case Study:

- Two main problems associated with residential and multi-family locations are installer strains and bruises from handling the stone pieces or dropping a finished stone while removing it from the crate or A-frame.
- Installers at multi-family apartments or condominiums should account for:
 - General contractors safety guidelines
 - Scale of the project
 - Larger quantity of stone which may impact onsite material storage needs
 - More onsite grinding and adjustments



Commercial Case Study:

- In low rise buildings without elevators, stone may have to be moved entirely from a staging area by hand up to three stories.
- Interior passenger or exterior construction elevators can be used to move the stone to the proper floor.
- Stone and tile work will usually be one of the last functions to be completed in the finishing process.
- Stone and tile installers may find themselves working alone in the suites as most other trades will have completed their work.
- It is important for the installation crew to have insight into staging areas and to be prepared prior to beginning work with hazard, material and equipment checklists.
- Light commercial projects must also carefully address potential hazards, potential cause of injuries and how to avoid them through a preliminary inspection.
- Depending on the height of the working area, portable platforms or scaffolds may be used for the install.
- Scaffolds above 20 feet must be tied to the structure of the building to eliminate a potential collapse.
- Installers working above 6 feet on scaffolds must wear a safety harness to protect against a fall.