

## Overview of Installation Safety Module

### Class Reading - Review Learning Objectives

#### Course Description:

Safety at the installation site is important at all times. If you don't pay attention to what protective gear you are wearing and how you go about doing your job in the safest possible manner, you could very well become a statistic. This module will discuss the variables that make installation job sites different from fabrication facilities safety and identify the most common injuries during the installation process.

#### Learning Objectives:

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

1. Understand the variables that make installation job site safety different from fabrication facility safety.
2. Know the most common injuries that occur during the installation process.
3. Identify techniques and policies that will keep your team safe in the field.
4. Understand that there is no place for complacency in the stone industry.

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

##### Residential and Commercial Site Safety:

- Residential installation crews may be able to unload at the workplace door using state-of-the-art devices to get the countertop right to where it is hoisted onto the counters.
- Often residential sites are not paved.
- Commercial job sites might include installers from multiple trades at one time.
- Commercial job sites may use scaffolds, exterior elevators and material staging which should be considered when planning your installation.
- Pre-installation planning is the key to job efficiency and minimizing the possibility of injury.

##### Injury Statistics:

- In a 45 year career, people in construction have a 75 percent chance of experiencing a disabling injury and a one in 200 chance of being fatally injured.
- 20 percent of all workplace deaths are in the construction industry.
- 60 percent of construction workplace injuries occur within the employee's first year of employment.
- More than 25 percent of the most serious falls are from 10 feet or less.
- Falls from scaffolds are also common and account for 1/3 of all accidents.
- 25 percent of all injuries are back injuries and back injuries cause one in 100 construction workers to miss work periods ranging from 7 to 30 days or longer.
- 1 in 3 fatal accidents at worksites involve vehicles.



Example of a residential installation scaffold

*Continued on Next Page*

### Types of Injuries and Risks:

- Back injuries are sprains and strains from incorrectly lifting, lowering, pushing and pulling large pieces of granite or other stone materials.
- Falls on job sites are often caused by tripping over debris, tools, and construction materials.
- Cuts and bruises to the hands can come from failure to wear proper gloves during stone handling and cutting.
- Eye protection is particularly important when installing tile.
- Apart from heavy vehicles, you must also watch out for falling objects.
- Your installation procedures should always account for electrical incidents including contact with power lines and extension cords.
- Overexertion, dehydration and exhaustion all contribute to a lack of focus and can lead to small mistakes with big consequences.



Example of a lift  
at a commercial job site