



CONCRETE-REBAR TRADE PROJECT COMMUNICATION

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A concrete contractor installed shoring to pour an elevated concrete slab for some equipment on a large project.

PROJECT COMMUNICATION ISSUES

The CM/GC had two QA/QC managers on site.

- The shoring contractor had one QA/QC manager on vacation, **during which a design change required more shoring capacity.**

After the original shoring, the QA/QC manager returned from vacation. **He received delivery of the shoring, had it installed, and declared it ready for concrete.**

- The owner's QA/QC manager realized the installed shoring was for the previous load requirements, not the new design.

The concrete contractor had to rework the shoring to accommodate the new load requirements, causing several weeks of delay and additional costs.

- All because there was no team communication about a design change.

Reworking the shoring caused weeks of delay.



LESSONS LEARNED

Professionals and tradespeople need to communicate information — what is important, who needs to know it, why it is vital, when it matters most, and where it is involved.

One team member must be responsible for all project-documented information and a project communication plan.

- This person ensures that new info will be documented, delegated, and distributed to project personnel.

In our example, once there was a design change, the foreman should have inserted the change into a project communication plan and assigned the plan to a project engineer.

The project engineers are responsible for the following:

- Documenting the impact of a change on work crews.
- Scheduling, quality, cost, and project materials and risk.

The contractor should then pass on the impact to the client.

- The engineer will document the shoring plan change and update the QA/QC Manager on the design change.

The actual cost was extensive:

- Loss of productivity and falling behind schedule
- More than \$30,000 in additional labor and shipping costs
- Safety and quality risks by completing rework with required overtime

Use a project communication plan to talk things out.



Perhaps the most significant damage is a possible opinion against the contractor's perceived competency.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever worked on a project where you received too much detailed information? What happened?
2. Who on this project is charged with QA/QC responsibilities?
3. Should tradespeople be encouraged to point out design change issues?

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CONCRETE AND REBAR TRADE LOCKOUT/TAGOUT SAFETY TOOLBOX TALK

OVERVIEW

Lockout and tagout (lockout/tagout) (LO/TO) refer to safeguard methods employers and employees use to protect workers from hazardous machinery energy releases. LO/TO are safety practices or procedures to disable machinery or equipment from being energized or activated to prevent unaware employees and the public from harming themselves or others.

LEARN AND APPLY THE FOLLOWING

All trades must deal with equipment or machinery that is potentially dangerous, especially equipment that is shut down. Many accidents happen when a worker turns on a machine that others are repairing.

- LO/TO procedures are one way to ensure these types of accidents do not happen by ensuring power cannot reach the machinery while workers are near it or repairing it.
- LO/TO methods are only effective if workers are intentional and consistent with LO/TO methods. Simply turning off a machine is not an acceptable practice.

Lockout: LO means a lock or other device is placed that prevents the release of energy.

- LO examples are electric circuit breakers, line valves, disconnect switches, or blocks.

Tagout: TO means attaching a tag on the shutoff device, switch, or entry door that warns other employees and the public not to touch or start the equipment.

- TO must be used in addition to LO to maximize effectiveness unless LO of the equipment is not possible.

Training: The effectiveness of lockout or tagout is entirely up to the employee.

- Ask to see and become familiar with your company's LO/TO procedures for the equipment you will work near or with.
- Make sure you are adequately trained in LO/TO procedures.

Concrete and Rebar Trade–Lockout/Tagout Procedures

Regarding Concrete and Rebar work, LO/TO procedures can absolutely protect workers against accidents caused by releasing hazardous energy through power tools.

Before LO/TO:

- Always check the power tool manufacturer handbook for instructions on how to apply LO/TO devices.
- Identify the power tool's power sources and where and how to de-energize them.

Concrete and Rebar trade tools require LO devices to isolate the power sources and TO devices to notify workers. For example:

Concrete Saw: cord plug lockout with padlock or power switch lockout and a tagout device

Grinder: cord plug lockout with padlock or power switch lockouts and a tagout devices

Air compressor: steel group lockout hasps with each team member's padlock and a tagout device

Concrete Vibrator: cord plug lockout with padlock or power switch lockout and a tagout device

LOTO DEVICES



Meeting Date:

Supervisor:

Employee Name:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are lockout and tagout safety devices?
2. How do lockout and tagout safety practices or procedures improve safety on site?
3. Are there General Contractor or Building Owner specific rules that apply to Concrete and Rebar work that are above OSHA Lockout/Tagout standards?