



Toolbox Talk

Topic: Come-alongs

A come-along is a hand-operated ratchet lever winch. A winch is a mechanical device used to wind a chain or cable. A ratchet is a mechanical brake that keeps the line from unwinding.

Ask yourself a few questions:

1. Do you know anyone who was injured by using a come-along?
2. What is the use of the breakable stress link and web strap?
3. Why do we need to wear gloves while using a come-along?

Hazards	Precautions
Stored energy	Do not exceed the working load limit or capacity. Stay out of the line of fire.
Fatal injury	Do not hoist people or lift loads over people. Restrict access to the work area, especially the pulling direction. Stand to the side of the crank.
Chain breaks or slips	Inspect chains for visual damage. Make sure safety hooks are in working order and have them professionally inspected according to the manufacturer's recommendation.
Overuse / fatigue	Do not use cheater bars or pipes. Inspect hooks and connections. Never pull on or attach to a high-tensile bolt or rod.
Cuts and crush points	Wear proper fitting gloves and keep your fingers from the drum. Make sure no one has positioned their hands between the come-along and the load.

Have your team identify five hazards and precautions associated with using a come-along. Challenge them to identify the hazards before reviewing the table above, then discuss the hazards they may have missed.



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Date:

Presented by:

Organization/Department Name

Attendee Printed Name	Signature

Comments: