

## TAILGATE – Working Alone



### INTRODUCTION

Working alone is sometimes more hazardous than doing the same job with other people. If an accident occurs, a "lone worker" must worry about getting themselves to safety and calling for help at the same time. If you perform all or parts of your job by yourself, you are required to follow the basic safety guidelines involved.

### SAFETY CONCERNS

- Single persons working in public are more vulnerable to assault than a group of people are.
- Single persons working in the wilderness are more vulnerable to animal predators.
- A single worker may be less likely to see impending hazards.
- A single worker will have greater difficulty getting help if an injury or entrapment occurs.



- Make sure you have a method of communication with your boss or coworkers with either a cellphone or other effective communication system.
  - Always keep your cell phone charged and have important numbers stored.



### SAFE WORK PRACTICES

The risk of working alone is dependent on the location, whether the work is risky or not, and whether or not there is involvement with the public. Lone workers who work with electricity, dangerous substances, or powerful equipment must be especially careful. Possible safety precautions could include the following:

- Never work alone in confined spaces unless there is an entry supervisor.



- Do not work alone with dangerous equipment or tools unless you have been properly trained.
- Talk to your boss and coworkers about where you will be working.