TOOLBOX TALK

Identifying Safety Concerns

Installation Preparation:

- No two installation sites are exactly the same so there really is no template that applies to every installation.
- Install crews need to know in advance what outside terrain and inside obstacles must be navigated in order to get the stone and other materials to their final resting place in the home.
- The weight of stone used in typical kitchen, bath and fireplace, floor and other applications makes it critical to know how many associates are needed to lift the pieces and how many flights of stairs are in the path ahead.
- It is important to know elevator measurements, weight restrictions, and what hallway dimensions will be encountered, and whether mechanical devices are needed for the installation.
- Installation crews should know what furniture and other furnishings are along the path, so they can be moved or taken into consideration when planning movement of the stone materials.
- Installation crews should know if materials have to be transported over unpaved surfaces and how to account for this.
- Always know what other trades will be working at the same time so you can make preparations.
- Templators or estimators should take photos and videos so that installation crews can have a clear understanding of what they will encounter.
- Primary contractors will take the lead in developing an overall safety program for the project.

When Developing a Pre-Installation Checklist, Priority Should be Given to:

- Jobs with the highest injury or illness rates.
- Jobs where there have been close calls- where an accident occurred but no one was hurt.
- Jobs where you have identified violations of safety standards.
- Jobs with the potential to cause serious injuries or illness, even if there is no history of such. problems.
- Jobs in which one simple human mistake could lead to severe injury.
- Jobs that are new to your operation or have been changed.
- Jobs complex enough to require written instructions.

