

## Preventing Falls on California Construction Sites

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## Background

- Falls are leading cause of death in construction
- Rates of injury/illness are disproportionately high among minorities and older workers
- National Falls Prevention Campaign launched in 2012



Dramatization of a worker falling

## CDPH/FACE Digital Worker Stories



## Objectives

- Gather feedback on pairing of digital story video with tailgate trainings
- Create and field test Tailgate Training cards
- Identify barriers to using fall protection
- Further our knowledge about construction industry



Ricardo with workers

## Methods

### Tailgate Trainings

- 11 trainings (7 sites)
  - Union & non-union
  - Residential & commercial
- 20-70 minutes long
- Bilingual
- 304 workers and 45 foremen and superintendents reached

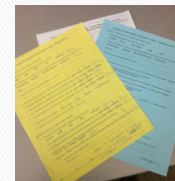


Our trainings in action

## Methods

### Survey instrument

- 26-item
- Self-administered with some assistance
- English and Spanish
- Participants:
  - 147 workers
  - 9 foremen
  - 20 superintendents

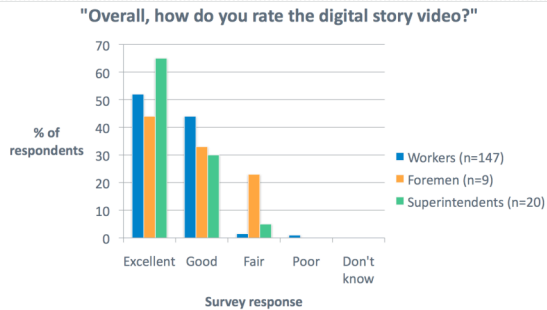


The surveys

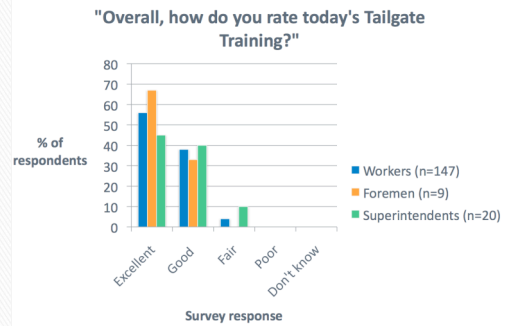


Workers filling out survey

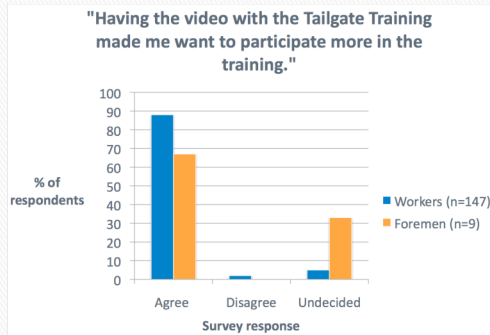
## Results



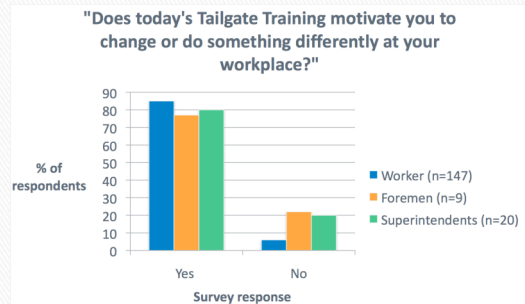
## Results



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## Reasons for Not Wanting to Use Fall Protection

- » Harnesses are uncomfortable
- » Ropes and lanyards become trip hazards
- » Difficult to find anchor points



Workers using harnesses and lanyards

## Worker Comments

"Watching the video gave me chills 'cause I've fallen before"

"Our bosses rush us to get the job done faster"

"I fell from a two story building while wearing a harness. I was just hanging there and had to climb up to rescue myself"



## Limitations

- Training
  - Noise levels
  - Outdoor worksites
  - Employer presence
  - Language barriers
  - Technical difficulties
- Surveys
  - Too long, not much time to administer
  - Literacy



Worker taking survey at a jobsite



## Successes

- Number of workers trained and surveyed
- Adaptability
- Developed surveys and created Access database
- Interaction with workers
- Bilingual training cards (Give-Back)



Miquela and Ricardo in action



## Recommendations

- Encourage employers to conduct English trainings and Spanish trainings separately
- Show video through different mediums
- Implement Train-the-Trainer pilot
- Evaluate effectiveness of trainings



## Reflections



Early birds at our second Tailgate Training



## Acknowledgements

**California Department of Public Health  
Occupational Health Branch**  
David Harrington, Natalie Sacramento, Bob Harrison,  
Rebecca Jackson, Laura Styles, Luz Kirsch, Ray Butarbutar, John Beckman, Susan Payne

**Occupational Health Internship Program staff**

**Labor Occupational Health Program staff**

**Northern California/Bay Area contractor trade associations and unions**

**The construction company employers, managers, and workers who participated in our trainings**



## **Thank You to our Funders**

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

CPWR: The Center for Construction Research and Training

California Department of Public Health  
Occupational Health Branch

Association of Environmental and Occupational Clinics

