



Minnesota Electrical Association

Electrical Toolbox Talks

Core Drilling

There are two items to consider when determining what type of safety procedures are needed to perform core drilling at jobsites: wet concrete method and dry concrete method. Regardless of the method, the following steps need to be followed:

- Hearing protection should be used.
- A control zone to restrict entry should be made under the core drilling area.
- Only qualified persons should perform core drilling (a qualified person is someone with the training and experience to perform the task).
- When drilling for fasteners, employees must stay inside the basket of the manlift—no over-reaching.
- Specific training should be provided for employees using the hammer drill.
- A core drilling manual should be obtained and used as a guide.



Wet Method

- A respirator is not needed.
- Surge protection should be provided for tools.
- A vacuum source is needed to collect the water.

Dry Method

- Respiratory protection should be used (at least N-95).
- A respiratory protection program is required when using a respirator (fit testing, evaluation and written plan).
- A Personal Protective Equipment Program should be in place to determine what types of safety equipment employees need when performing core drilling and other tasks.



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