

**BEFORE THE TALK PREPARATION TIPS**

- 1** Being alert and aware is one thing, but being petrified with fear about the possibility of a terrorist attack is another. Mention to your workers that they should go about their daily business, enjoy life and not live in fear.
- 2** On the day of the talk it might be beneficial to set up a scenario where a person unknown to your workers is taking pictures of your workplace or otherwise acting suspiciously. At your safety meeting, ask if anyone has noticed anything unusual. Did anyone confront that individual and ask what he or she was doing, or inform you?
- 3** Evaluate the security of your workplace. Is it easy for someone to walk around your workplace without a name tag? Are doors to sensitive areas kept locked? If security is lax, you have some work to do.

**NOTES**

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting conducted by: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY:** Each participant is to sign below, for record kept on file.

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Answers to T201507-01 Quiz:

**1. True, 2. True, 3. True, 4. True**

**AFTER THE TALK CHECKLIST**

- Provided extra training to workers who did poorly on quiz  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Observed workers  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Refresher training  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (describe)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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## Terrorism—Disarming the Threat

There was a time when workers didn't have to worry about an act of terrorism occurring on the job. That situation changed drastically with events such as the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001 and even before then, in the truck bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, which killed 168 people on April 19, 1995. Much more recently, the April 15, 2013 Boston Marathon bombing, in which two pressure-cooker bombs were set off, killed three people and injured about 265 others.

Today, workers need to prepare for all possible emergencies, including terrorism. Terrorism is the use of force intended to influence or bring about a course of action that furthers a political or social objective. Acts of terrorism, as the word implies, are designed to create terror and panic, disrupt security and communication systems, destroy property and kill or injure innocent civilians.

In this Safety Talk, we'll discuss terrorism target risk factors, what kinds of weapons can be used, how to recognize terrorism, and what steps you can take to be prepared for a potential attack.

### WHAT CAN GO WRONG

Some workplaces and areas are more obvious targets than others. Facilities at higher risk for a terrorist attack include:

- Plants that utilize, store or manufacture hazardous materials that could be released into the atmosphere.
- Power-generating facilities, dams, refineries and other essential service providers.
- Areas with high pedestrian traffic.
- Buildings with limited exits, such as skyscrapers, or underground operations.
- Transportation systems, including airlines, trains, trucks, subways, buses, and ships.
- Bridges, tunnels and other infrastructure elements.
- Government agencies and offices.
- Schools, colleges and universities.
- Financial institutions.

Terrorists often target high-traffic areas such as airports or shopping malls in large cities, where they can disappear into a crowd. They use a range of weapons and tactics, including bombings, arson, hijacking and kidnapping.

Your workplace may have several of the risk factors mentioned above, or it may have none. However, because a terrorist attack can happen anywhere at any time, you need to be prepared and know what you can do to maximize your chances for survival.

### HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Being prepared for a terrorist attack boils down to being aware of the warning signs and being cautious and alert. You need to have received training on:

- Emergency evacuation procedures.
- How to respond to bomb threats and other threats, including who to call.
- What to do if you spot suspicious vehicles or people on work property.

You need to be aware of your surroundings at all times, particularly in high-target areas. It is valuable to know two or more ways out of a building to increase your chances of getting to safety. Know where emergency exits and stairways are located and never use elevators in an emergency.

### FINAL WORD

*A terrorist attack can happen at any time in any place. Your safety is important to your employer, and especially your family. Use the information in this Safety Talk to prepare yourself and know what to do to reduce your risk of injury or death in a threatening situation.* ■

**Meeting material to go:** *Safety meeting materials such as presentation tips, PowerPoint presentations, quiz answers and more are downloadable at [www.SafetySmart.com](http://www.SafetySmart.com)*

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. Terrorism is the use of force intended to influence or bring about a course of action that furthers a political or social objective.  
 True  False
2. The purpose of terrorism is to instill terror by disrupting security and communications, damaging property and killing innocent civilians.  
 True  False
3. Being prepared for a possible terror attack includes being aware of warning signs and staying cautious and alert.  
 True  False
4. It is important to know the locations of emergency exits and stairways, and to not use an elevator in an emergency.  
 True  False

### What Would You Do?

Jill is a secretary for the plant manager at a power generating facility. During the past week she has noticed a man in a hoodie sitting outside the building early in the morning and later in the day. Using the information in this Safety Talk, discuss how she should respond to this possible threat and what she can do to stay safe.

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