

# Site Security

## WHY THIS MATTERS

Construction sites lose up to \$1 billion annually to theft, and over 11,000 equipment thefts are reported each year — with only 21% ever recovered. Unsecured sites also expose workers and the public to serious hazards from unauthorized access. OSHA's General Duty Clause requires employers to keep workplaces free from recognized hazards, and that includes security threats like trespassing, theft and vandalism.

**\$1B**

Annual construction theft losses in the U.S.

**11K+**

Equipment thefts reported per year

**21%**

Of stolen equipment is ever recovered

## 5 Rules for Site Security

Every worker shares responsibility for keeping the site secure:

- 1 CONTROL ACCESS AT ALL TIMES**  
Only authorized personnel enter the site — check IDs, log visitors, lock gates after hours.
- 2 SECURE TOOLS AND MATERIALS**  
Lock tools in containers, chain high-value equipment, store materials in secured areas.
- 3 MAINTAIN PERIMETER FENCING**  
Inspect fencing daily — repair gaps, post 'No Trespassing' signs at all entry points.
- 4 REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**  
If you see something, say something — notify your supervisor or security immediately.
- 5 LOCK UP AT END OF SHIFT**  
Secure all gates, containers and equipment before leaving — never assume someone else will.

## Before You Start — Quick Checklist

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Are all access points locked or staffed?          | <input type="checkbox"/> Are visitor sign-in logs being used?       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Are tools locked in storage containers?           | <input type="checkbox"/> Is perimeter fencing intact with no gaps?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is adequate lighting working at all entry points? | <input type="checkbox"/> Are 'No Trespassing' signs posted visibly? |

## Key Threats & How to Prevent Them

**Theft:** Lock tools, chain equipment, use GPS trackers on high-value assets. Inventory daily.

**Vandalism:** Adequate lighting + cameras deter vandals. Report and document damage immediately.

**Unauthorized Access:** Fencing, locked gates, ID badges and visitor logs keep unauthorized people out.

**After-Hours Risk:** Most theft and vandalism occur at night and weekends — lighting and patrols are critical.

**Internal Theft:** Inventory tracking, tool check-out logs and clear accountability reduce internal losses.

**Emergency Access:** Ensure emergency services can always access the site — never block emergency routes.

### Common Mistakes That Compromise Security

- ✗ Leaving gates unlocked or propped open — the #1 cause of unauthorized access
- ✗ Storing tools and copper in the open overnight — easy targets for opportunistic theft
- ✗ Ignoring broken fencing or damaged locks — a gap is an invitation
- ✗ Assuming someone else will lock up — always verify before you leave

### Safety Tips to Remember

- ✓ Last person out locks up — verify every gate, container and access point
- ✓ Report anything suspicious immediately — don't wait until the next shift
- ✓ Use tool check-out logs — know who has what and where it was last seen
- ✓ Good lighting is your cheapest security — dark corners invite trouble

## Discussion Questions for Your Team

1. Who is responsible for locking up our site at the end of the day?
2. Have we had any theft, vandalism or trespassing incidents recently?
3. Are all high-value tools and materials stored in locked containers?
4. Do we have a visitor sign-in procedure — and is it being followed?
5. Where are the weak points in our perimeter fencing right now?

### TOOLBOX TALK SIGN-OFF

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

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Project: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Attendance sheet attached: [ ] Yes