



## Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



### Hand Tool Inspections Safety Message

There are many injuries while using hand tools on the job. Many of these injuries occur from improper use, but there are also injuries that involve a tool that was broken or in need of repair. What tool is being used will decide what needs to be inspected on it. In this safety talk, we will discuss basic handheld tools that are not electric or pneumatic.

Common hand tools found on almost every job site and at home across the country are screwdrivers, hammers, chisels, and wrenches. This is not an all-inclusive list, but these are some of the most commonly used hand tools.

### General Hand Tools Best Practices

- \* Keep tools clean. Dirty tools are harder to use safely and properly.
- \* Do not modify hand tools. Keep the manufacturer's design intact.
- \* Secure all hand tools and store them away properly. Tools left out are much more likely to get lost, stolen, or damaged.
- \* Use tools how they are designed to be used. This will keep the tool in good condition longer and you safe when using it.

### Discussion points:

- Are the hand tools we have on-site safe to use?
- Today in the field, look at every hand tool in your work area. Turn any tools into your supervisor that are broken or need replaced.