

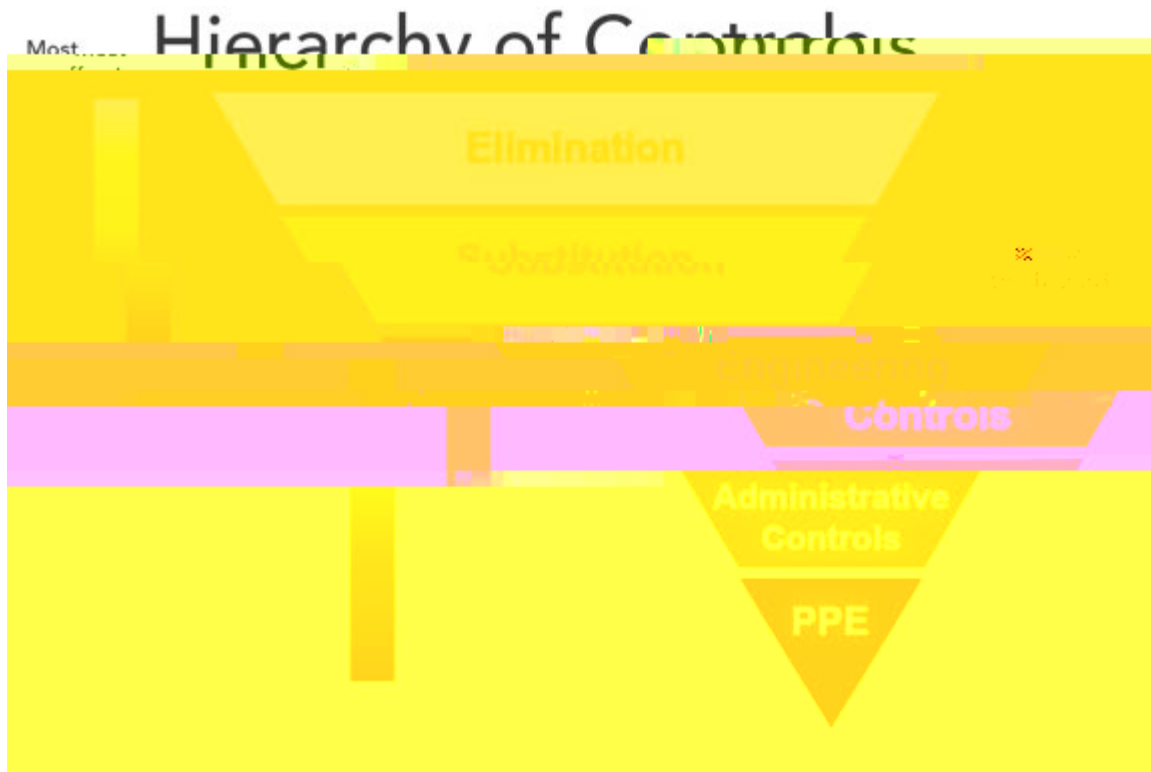


## Preventing Dropped Objects

**A dropped object is** an object that falls from its previous static position under its own weight with the potential to cause injury or equipment and environmental damage.

Worker safety and health is a top priority in the wind industry. Ensuring that workers in the industry understand and implement a fall protection program is ingrained. In an industry where working areas can exceed 300 feet above ground, securing tools and items is of paramount importance. Tools and items falling from any height is a problem, however, a tool or item falling while working in the wind industry endangers workers below. Even if a small object such as a bolt falls, it will generate an impact of 300 lbs and will cause moderate injury.

Follow the Hierarchy of Control and eliminate the issue of dropped objects.



\* NIOSH website - <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hierarchy/>

How many times has something fallen out of your pocket? Even with closures, items find their way out of pockets. That cellphone in your pocket could fall out, which then could fall below, through the grates to cause an injury to your co-worker and at a minimum - cause you an extra climb down to the location of the item. Pockets are pretty handy but they are also a great source of dropped objects.

