

It's no secret that all businesses should have a plan in case of emergency. For construction companies, it's extremely important because the business can be shut down due to disasters or unexpected events.

From natural catastrophes to global pandemics, a crisis can come at any moment and have a huge impact on jobsites and projects, affecting all subcontractors and trades involved. This includes carpenters, laborers, plumbers, and electricians. No matter what happens or who's on the job, every emergency requires prompt action to help minimize or control the potential effects on the business and development. So, knowing what to do and how to create a crisis management plan can help.

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## **A CRISIS CAN COME OUT OF NO WHERE**

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Construction contractors may encounter an unplanned event that requires immediate and decisive management action. This event may involve such things as: a natural disaster, major medical emergency, fire, crane, or scaffolding collapse; a hazardous material event, threats of violence, serious injury/fatality, or any physical situation that endangers people on-site or the project itself.

And a crisis can occur on active or inactive jobsites. Idle construction projects are not immune from a crisis and can

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## ECONOMIC CRISES

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There may also be a crisis situation involving economic impacts, such as labor disputes, loss of key personnel, technology breakdowns delaying communications, or problems

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and revenue following a crisis. As a result, a business should establish a strict policy that only approved, accurate information is to be released to the media.

#### **STEP 5: CONDUCT PRACTICE DRILLS AND TRAIN NEW WORKERS**

Ideally, in order to test the crisis plan a business should conduct mock drills aimed at increasing preparedness and identifying weaknesses. As part of their jobsite orientation, construction workers should receive detailed instructions on what to do in a crisis. The information should be updated regularly as the construction project moves toward completion



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