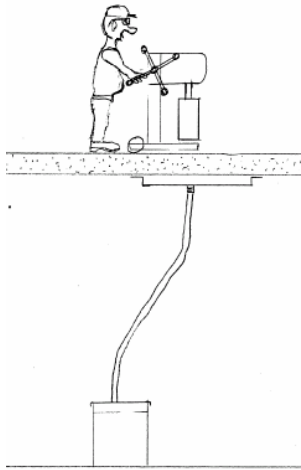


To continually examine our processes to provide greater value to our customers without waste.



The Lean Line

CATCH ON TO A CATCHY IDEA

How many of you have cored a hole and had someone below holding a 5-gallon bucket or similar contraption to catch the water and core? Or worse yet, how many of you were the person below trying to balance a bucket while standing on a ladder and judging about where the core will fall? Not very safe; nor very efficient. A Plumber who recently completed his apprenticeship with Grunau, came up with an idea that is catching on throughout the trades.

A catch pan was designed that is approximately 12"x12" and 3" deep. There is a flange all the way around it and a hose thread on the bottom. There are four 1/4" tap-cons along with gasket material to seal the pan to the ceiling. The procedure is to initially drill a 1/2" pilot hole and then anchor the pan underneath the cutting area. Install a hose to the bottom of the pan and direct the hose towards a 5-gallon bucket that is safely resting on the floor. The water used to keep the core bit cool will run into the pan and drain through the hose down to the bucket below. Debris and the core itself will fall into the pan and only drop to the 3" depth of the pan. Then you can place a 3/8" rod into the core's 1/2" pilot hole and angle the rod to pull out the core.

Set-up takes about 5 minutes and is well worth the time up-front. It reduces the amount of time needed later to clean up the work space, and makes the work area much safer as well. The catch pan was first tried at St. Luke's and with a successful outcome, the idea spread and has been used at several jobsites already.

Our Sheet Metal Shop has been making the pans on demand, so plan a little ahead and next time you expect to core holes, contact the Tool Room or Sheet Metal Shop to obtain a catch pan. If you come up with an idea to help make our jobs more efficient, let one of the Lean Team members know.

