**Cutting Tool Safety Talk**

Box knives, scissors, or knives are used to perform various tasks, such as opening boxes, or packages. When using a cutting tool, following these safety practices will prevent lacerations:

* Handle, use, and store knives and sharp utensils safely.
* Cut in the direction away from the body.
* Keep fingers and thumbs out of the way of the cutting line.
* Utilize protective clothing provided by employers, such as steel mesh or Kevlar gloves.
* Use a box knife or cutting tool for its intended purpose.
* Have a designated storage area for cutting tools when not in use. Box knives should be stored with blades covered.
* In kitchen areas, install knife holders on worktables to prevent injuries.
* If a cutting tool is dropped or falling, let it fall. Do not try to catch it.
* When carrying sharp objects, always point downward and away from your body.
* Do not touch blades.
* Avoid placing sharp objects near the edge of countertops.
* When using a knife, do not talk to customers or coworkers. If interrupted, stop, and place the cutting tool down on a secure surface. Do not cut while distracted.