



TOOLBOX TALKS

Caught In/Between, Toolbox Talk #5

Working Safely Around Cranes and Material Handling Operations

Cranes and material handling are extremely hazardous operations.

(Discuss what hazards that could occur during these operations on this particular site?)

- ◆ Employees can get caught in between the crane housing and the counterweight
- ◆ Employees can get struck by an unintended load
- ◆ The crane can be overloaded or set up on unstable footings and employees can be crushed by the weight of overturned cranes or collapsing portions of the crane.



Actual Incident: On April 9, 2016 on a construction site in Salem, Oregon, an employee entered a barricaded area where a crane was operating. The victim was in the crane operator's blind spot. The crane operator began rotating the crane and the body of the crane pushed the victim and broke through the guard-rail system. The victim fell approximately 21 ft. to the ground surface below.

(What precautionary measures could have been taken to avoid this fatality and similar incidents?)

- ◆ Fully barricade area around moving superstructures during lifting or moving operations
- ◆ Never go into an area during lifting operations unless absolutely necessary and then only when the operator is fully aware of your presence
- ◆ Prior to lifting, ensure that all cranes are placed on firm footings. Utilize outriggers as per the manufacturer's requirements.
- ◆ Ensure that all material lifts are performed by qualified riggers.
- ◆ Use a qualified signal person anytime a crane is being utilized to lift loads

(Lets talk about this job. What operations could create a caught in/ between hazard)



Source: CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND POLICY CENTER Construction Fatality Digest VOL. 5 NO. 3 July—Sept 2016



OSHA and our construction industry partners, such as the Mid-Atlantic Construction Safety Council, have initiated a "Focus Four Hazards" campaign throughout OSHA's Region III's jurisdiction. The goal of this campaign is to raise awareness in the recognition, evaluation, and control of these hazards. As noted below, the Focus Four Hazards account for the vast majority of injuries and fatalities in the construction industry.

