



TOOLBOX TALKS

Caught In/Between Toolbox Talk # 5

Working Safely Around Cranes and Material Handling Operations

Ask the following questions and give time for answers.

What are the hazards? Struck-by loads or equipment, getting caught-in crane housing or counterweight, crane tipping, crushing

What are the results? Broken bones and limbs, crushing injuries, internal damage, and death

What should we look for? Guarded swing radius, stable footing, lift plan, overhead loads

Actual Incident:

Morgantown, WV: An employee clearing debris was working next to a crawler crane. The employee was working near the right side of the crane in the crane operator's blind spot. The crane operator began rotating the crane and the counterweight of the crane pushed the employee into the crane's structure. The employee was crushed between the superstructure and frame of the crane resulting in fatal injuries.

How do we prevent these results?

- * 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/instructions.
- * 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?

This information has been developed by OSHA and its partners with the intent to assist employers, workers, and others as they strive to improve workplace health and safety. This information must be understood as a tool for addressing workplace hazards, rather than an exhaustive statement of an employer's legal obligations, which are defined by statute, regulations, and standards.

