

Safety Flash - Incident with injury

Incident: The subcontractor crew was pouring concrete pads on the roof of the existing building. Concrete was being placed in two wheelbarrows on the hoisting platform to be raised to the roof. As one wheelbarrow filled up with concrete, the worker used a shovel to stop the flow in the chute and backed up the concrete truck to swing the chute to the other opening. As the truck pulled forward, his hand was pinched between the shovel handle and the hoist frame.

Possible contributing factors:

- The worker held back concrete in the chute with a shovel when moving the chute to avoid spilling concrete onto the plant-owned hoist.
- A vertical bar in the middle of the hoisting platform required the truck to reposition to move the chute instead of swinging the chute to fill the second wheelbarrow.
- The worker did not recognize the potential pinch point created when he placed his body in the line of fire as he moved to the next opening.
- The crew did not see the need to complete another daily pre-task plan to identify hazards and work methods because they had completed the same task previously.
- The crew did not realize they could rotate the hoisting platform for unobstructed access to both wheelbarrows instead of moving the concrete truck.

Primary contributing factors:

- The crew did not realize they could rotate the hoisting platform for unobstructed access to both wheelbarrows instead of moving the concrete truck.
- The crew did not see the need to complete another daily pre-task plan to identify hazards and work methods because they had completed the same task previously.

Possible solutions:

- To eliminate the pinch point, consider turning the hoist to fill the wheelbarrow on the side with no middle bar.
- Perform twice daily pre-task planning per our contract.
- Consider using other types of hoisting equipment.
- Provide training on pinch point hazards.

Action plan:

- The subcontractor met with the field crew to discuss the incident, mentoring of new employees and pinch point hazards.
- The worker involved in the incident has taken 30-hour OSHA training.
- The subcontractor's goal is to require 30-hour OSHA training for all foremen.
- RLI met with all crews on site to discuss pinch points/caught-between hazards and the Find It-Fix It program.
- The subcontractor's safety director will continue weekly site visits.

Keep improving:

Your health and safety are our core value on every project. If you see a way we can support you in keeping our job sites safe, see your supervisor or contact: Jim Philo, 419/654-2043; Rich Franklin, Michigan, 734/679-7283; Alan Doane, Cleveland, 440/429-0639; Rick Wallace, Lima, 419/705-9170 or Mark Hoffman, 419/360-9280.

