

Safety Flash

Near Miss Incident

Date of Incident: 12/3/2019

The Incident

As the last strap of banding was being cut on a bundle of roofing sheets, the bundle slid down the roof and fell to the ground below. No one was injured.

The Causes

- When roofing sheets are banded together, they become compressed. When the last strap of banding was cut, the stored energy that was released may have allowed the bundle to slide down the roof.
- No preventive measures were taken to keep the bundle from sliding down the roof.
- The crew did not identify this hazard in their pre-task planning and failed to expand the safety zone on the exterior of the building.
- Moisture may have penetrated the bundle after it was set on the roof three weeks earlier. There also was a frost the morning of the incident.

Prevent It

- Barriers will be installed for the remainder of the job to prevent a recurrence of the incident. Safety zones will be expanded in the future during this activity to prevent pedestrians from being in harm's way.
- Crews will continue strapping bundles of roofing when placed on the roof.

Action Plan

- Review with foremen the need to identify and address the non-obvious hazards during their pre-task planning.

Keep Improving

Your health and safety are the most important part of every project. We need *your* help to eliminate unsafe behaviors and conditions. If you see a safer and better way to do a task, see your supervisor, or contact GEM Safety: Bill Cornett – 419-720-2728. To get personal protection equipment from the warehouse, call 419-720-2688.