

Safety Flash

Incident with Recordable Injury

Date of Incident: 7/17/2024

The Incident

An associate walked into on-site fab shop to grab a case of Gatorade which was located on the top shelf of a rack. The associate set up a stepladder to access the Gatorade. As the associate climbed the stepladder, their foot slipped on the next step as they were reaching for the Gatorade. The associate lost their balance and fell back and to the side, falling onto the corner of fab table that was next to them. Hitting the table caused them to fracture three (3) and bruise two (2) ribs on their right side.

The Causes

- Material used on a regular basis was stored on the top shelf of a rack.
- Needed to use a stepladder to access the material.
- Lost footing while ascending the stepladder and reaching for the material.
- Did not maintain three points of contact on the stepladder.

Prevent It

- Remove all material from the top shelf of rack.
- Lower shelves on the rack for easier access.
- Use a platform ladder when needed to access material.
- Maintain three points of contact when ascending or descending a ladder.

Action Plan

- Jobsite safety standdown to review the incident.
- Conduct an Incident Review.
- Create a Safety Flash for distribution.

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.