

Struck by hazards

Company name _____ Presenter _____
Location _____ Date _____

Understanding the different types of struck-by hazards is crucial for implementing effective safety measures. Struck-by incidents are the 2nd leading cause of death among construction workers.

There are four primary types of struck-by hazards.

- Struck-by **flying objects** occur when an object is propelled through the air and hits a worker. This can happen due to various reasons, such as:
 - Tools or materials being ejected from machinery.
 - Explosions or pressurized equipment failures.
 - Debris from cutting or grinding operations.
- Struck-by **falling objects** occur when an object falls from a height and hits a worker below. Common causes include:
 - Improperly secured tools or materials.
 - Workers dropping objects from scaffolding or ladders.
 - Structural failures or collapses.
- Struck-by **swinging objects** occur when an object moves in a swinging motion and hits a worker. This can happen due to:
 - Unsecured loads on cranes or hoists.
 - Improperly controlled machinery.
 - Wind or other environmental factors causing objects to swing.
- Struck-by **rolling objects** occur when a worker is hit by an object that is rolling, sliding or moving on wheels. Common causes include:
 - Vehicles or heavy equipment moving in the work area.
 - Unsecured materials or equipment rolling off surfaces.
 - Improperly stored materials or equipment.

To reduce struck by hazards, operators of mobile equipment need to:

- Inspect vehicles before use.
- Operate equipment on stable surfaces and avoid steep grades or ramps that can cause a tip over.
- Keep watch for people walking in the area.
- Use the parking brake when equipment is parked and chock the wheels when parked on an unlevel surface.
- Follow manufacturer's guidance for the weight ratings, seat belt use and number of passengers.

When working around mechanized equipment, remember to:

- Stay out of the path of moving equipment.
- Never assume the operator sees you.
 - Operators may have limited visibility and may not be aware of your presence.
- Don't get distracted or take your eyes off the equipment.
- Beware of moving parts on equipment that can cause injuries, for example belts and pulleys, gears, sprockets and chains.
- Never wear loose clothing that could be caught in machinery.

To prevent falling objects:

- Secure tools and materials.
- Use barriers to prevent tools and materials from falling. Installing toe-boards, screens, or guardrail systems and setting up debris nets, catch platforms, or canopy structures can stop falling objects from hurting workers on the ground.
- If you see tools on window ledges and similar locations, remove the tools or report the hazard.
- Remember to use hard hats and safety glasses.
- Consider tethering tools to tool belts. Tether tools with proper tool lanyards when performing overhead work.
- Barricade fall zones with a physical barrier to prevent people from being struck by loads.
- Don't stand or work in areas below a raised load.

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