

Toolbox Talk – Struck-by Hazards – GFRC Erection

As an Area Superintendent, you thought it would be beneficial to do a Toolbox Talk on the “struck-by” hazards that can occur with the erection of GFRC panels. Some topics that you thought would be beneficial to discuss regarding the erection of the GFRC panels at the Job wide Toolbox Talks were:

- 1) Tower Cranes – The GFRC panels will be lifted by a tower crane. There are specific safety rules that must be followed by everyone who works with or around this equipment. First, let’s talk about the safety precautions for workers in the operating areas of cranes, but who are not directly involved with their operation or use.
 - Stay alert and pay attention to the warning signal from overhead hoisting equipment.
 - Do not stand or walk under a load, whether it is moving or stationary.
 - Always warn others of moving and approaching overhead loads.
 - Never attempt to distract signal persons or operators of the overhead equipment while they are performing their jobs.
 - Always follow the warning signs.
- 2) Swinging Objects – When materials are mechanically lifted they have a potential to swing and hit workers. As the load is lifted the material can swing or turn. Windy conditions in particular are very hazardous. In addition to swinging, loads can slip from their riggings and hit workers.
 - The loads must be rigged properly to prevent the possibility of slipping.
 - Never position yourself between moving and fixed object
 - Stay alert of heavy equipment and stay clear of lifted or suspended loads
 - Wear appropriate PPE to include eye and face, head and high visibility clothing.
- 3) Aerial Lifts – Aerial lifts have replaced ladders and scaffolding on many job sites due to their mobility and flexibility. They may be made of metal, fiber glass reinforced panels, or other materials. They may be powered or manually operated, and are considered to be aerial lifts whether or not they can rotate around a primarily vertical axis
 - Pedestrian Traffic: Operators must be constantly aware of their surroundings.
 - Operators are responsible for the safety of pedestrians that may be in the vicinity of the lift equipment. When lift work is conducted in the vicinity of pedestrian traffic, operators must take special precaution to ensure that the work is isolated from the pedestrian traffic.
 - Never walk under the boom to gain access to the platform.
 - Signs, Caution Tape and Barriers: The aerial lift boom and basket should never be positioned above pedestrians or other workers. If an aerial lift is going to be used in an area near pedestrian traffic, operators are required to isolate the work area by establishing a perimeter and safely diverting the pedestrian traffic.
 - Danger signs, caution tape and/or barriers should be used to create the perimeter of the work area.