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Precast ... The Concrete Solution

Working Around Equipment / Struck By /Backing Hazards



Construction equipment is typically large and presents many blind areas to the operator's vision when operating and/or mobilizing. Besides hitting fixed objects, there can be a variety of workers who are on foot that would be exposed to equipment. There are many proactive measures that can be taken. Most may be considered common sense, but often they are not initiated until a serious accident occurs.



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Heavy Equipment Danger Zones:

- Blind spots and/or areas of limited visibility
- Rotating machinery
- Swing radius
- Travel path
- Suspended or overhead loads/overhead hazards
- Excessive noise levels

Important Safety Tips When Working Near Equipment:

- Only qualified and authorized personnel are permitted to operate equipment.
- 360-degree pre-shift inspection. Ensure all lights, audible alarms are functioning.
- Establish communication before starting work.
- Zero tolerance on cell phone usage.
 - The operator and ground personnel should **never** use a cell phone when working on or around equipment.
 - Leave personal phones in vehicles or lockers. The time to make personal calls is during a designated break time.



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- If it is necessary to answer or make a work related phone call, completely shut down the equipment or remove oneself from the “hazardous work area.”
- Maintain a clear line of site between the operator and workers. Blind spots are common. If you can't see the operator, they can't see you.
- Wear high visibility clothing and other appropriate P.P.E.
- A spotter should always be used when equipment is in motion.
- Stay alert! Be aware of the surroundings. Always be looking and listening.

Many times when workers think they can be seen by equipment operators. You may be in a blind spot or the operator may be focused in a different direction. Make eye contact! Know for sure you are seen. **Never assume!!**