

Worksite: \_\_\_\_\_ Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Topic C256: Crushing Accidents**

**Introduction:** Crushing accidents may involve: victims caught in or compressed by equipment or objects, victims caught in running equipment or machinery, and victims caught in or crushed by collapsing materials. The procedures to reduce these types of accidents are as follows:

**Lockout/Blockout/Tagout Procedures:**

- No employee is permitted to work on moving or running machinery or equipment unless they can show by the manufacturer's recommendation that there is no other way to perform the necessary work, and all safeguards recommended for that procedure are in place..
- Do Not perform maintenance or repairs on equipment where the inadvertent startup of the equipment could occur and cause injury, unless all hazardous energy sources have been locked out and tagged. Tags must read Do Not Start to indicate that the equipment is not to be operated.
- Any mechanical hazard sources must be blocked, caged, or restrained to prevent movement. Any equipment maintenance or repair requiring personnel to work under parts which may pose a crushing hazard must be cribbed or blocked to prevent crushing injuries.
- Any stored energy which may pose a hazard such as electrical charge, hydraulic or pneumatic pressure, or spring tension, must be dissipated prior to work being performed to avoid injury to personnel.

**All materials stored in tiers must be stacked, racked, blocked, interlocked, or otherwise secured to prevent sliding, falling or collapse.**

**Trenching and Excavating:**

- Excavations and trenches over 5 feet in depth must be properly sloped, benched, shored, or shielded as required with an adequate system, designed by an engineer or competent person, to prevent collapse of walls.
- Protective systems must be installed under the supervision of, and regularly inspected by, a competent person.
- A competent person must immediately remove any employees in the excavation until the danger is corrected.

**General Requirements for Storage:**

- All materials stored in tiers must be stacked, racked, blocked, interlocked, or otherwise secured to prevent sliding, falling or collapse.
- Maximum safe load limits of floors within buildings and structures, in pounds per square foot, must be conspicuously posted in all storage areas, except for a floor or slab on grade. Maximum safe loads must not be exceeded.
- Aisles and passageways must be kept clear to provide for the free and safe movement of material handling equipment or employees. When a difference in working levels exist, means such as ramps, stairways, or grading must be used to ensure the safe movement of vehicles and personnel between levels.
- Material stored inside buildings under construction must not be placed within 6 feet of any hoist way, inside floor opening, or within 10 feet of an exterior wall which does not extend above the top of the material stored.
- Structural steel, poles, pipe, bar stock, and other cylindrical materials, unless racked, must be stacked and blocked to prevent spreading or tilting.
- Lumber must be stacked on level and solidly supported sills, and stacked to be stable and self-supporting.
- Lumber piles must not exceed 20 feet in height. Lumber to be handled manually must not be stacked more than 16 feet high.

**Conclusion:** Crushing accidents are almost always the result of failure to implement one or more of the above safety procedures. Carelessness or indifference to these safety procedures is a needless risk.

**Employee Attendance:** (Names or signatures of personnel who are attending this meeting)


*These guidelines do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.*