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TAILGATE/TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING
 Safety Services Company-Safety Meeting Division,
 PO Box 6408 Yuma, AZ 85366-6408 Toll Free (866) 204-4786



Company Name _____ Job Site Location: _____

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ Finish Time: _____ Foreman/Supervisor: _____

Topic 605: Pinch Point Safety

Introduction: Pinch point means a point at which it is possible to be caught between the moving parts of a machine, or between the moving and stationary parts of a machine, or between material and any part of a machine. Pinch points are a commonly overlooked hazard on the job site. Debilitating injuries of the fingers, hands, arms, or feet occur when employees work with equipment, machines, or tools that they are not trained to use. Safe work habits are the best way to prevent injuries. Following are safety guidelines for avoiding pinch point injuries:

An employee shall:

- Not operate a machine or equipment until trained in the operating procedures, hazards, and safeguards and has been assigned to do so by the employer.
- Report to the supervisor any recognized hazard.
- Use required personal protective equipment or devices.
- *Always* keep your hands and other body parts clear of moving parts when starting up any machinery or tools.
- *When* an employee is exposed to a hazard created by a pinch point other than point of operation, the hazard must be guarded or the employee otherwise protected. All workers must not place his/her body beneath equipment, such as vehicles, machines, or materials.
- *Guards* are required to be secured to the machine, if possible, or to other fixed objects. The guard shall not create a hazard in itself.
- *Make sure* operating instructions and warnings are accessible to all workers. Whenever possible, place signs where pinch point hazards exist.
- *Workers* should know where all pinch points are located before servicing their tools and equipment.
- *Do not* remove a guard to get a job done quicker, endangering yourself and others. Guards tied back on skill saws cause kickback injuries.
- *Two hand-control devices* must be the anti-tie down type and located in a manner to prevent bridging. Operation must require manual activation of both controls until a point is reached in the cycle where the operator cannot remove his/her hands and place them within a pinch point. If repeating would cause an injury, an anti-repeat device is required to be incorporated into the control system.
- *Do not* wear gloves while operating power tools or machinery where a risk of entanglement may occur.
- *Lockout/Blockout/Tagout* all machinery before attempting to perform any maintenance work. Workers suffer severe injuries when machinery is inadvertently turned on while it is being repaired or adjusted.
- *Keep* clear of pulleys, belts, shafts, gears, chains, sprockets, idlers, mixing blades, or any other parts that move during operations.
- *Pinch points* on conveyers occur at the point where the belt changes direction and the point where the belt meets the tail pulley. Injuries occur where a worker is too close to the tail pulley and the bin where the material is loaded or unloaded.
- *Always* disconnect the air supply or power source on pneumatic tools before servicing them.
- *Articulated* loaders have a nasty pinch point at the pivot and bucket arms. Operators should always check both sides of the machine before moving it, to make sure no one is in this dangerous area. If you are the mechanic or oiler, you put yourself at serious risk every time you get in the pivot area. Install the safety bars or links before working in this area. Bleed the pressure out of the lines before attempting to change buckets or attachments. Cement driver pinch points occur during handling of the load-out chute and moving mixer parts.
- *Stay alert* around dump truck gates and beds. The point at which the bed makes contact with the frame of the vehicle can crush a hand or arm. Do not touch the gate or the locking mechanism until the gate is fully closed.
- *Power take offs* (PTOs) can pull long hair, along with the scalp, right off the head.
- *Never* place fingers or hands under a jacking handle when operating portable power jacks. Keep your hand firmly on the jack handle grip.
- *When* operating a brake press, never place your hands or fingers between the reciprocating mechanism and the press frame unless the equipment is disconnected from its power source. Always disconnect and lockout power sources before servicing or cleaning.



Personal protective equipment (PPE): Heavy-duty gloves, heavy-duty boots, and hard hats when necessary. Wear close fitting clothing when working near moving parts. Long hair must be tied back. Tuck your hair under a hat to keep hair from flying around. Remove any jewelry that can get pulled into a pinch point. When personal protective clothing is required, wear it tightly against the body.

Conclusion: Serious pinch point injuries occur when employees become complacent after operating the same equipment for many hours, days, weeks, and even years. Utilize these safety guidelines when operating and servicing tools and equipment with pinch points.

Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: _____

Personnel Safety Violations: _____

Employee Signatures: _____
 (My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)

Branscome Richmond Foreman/Supervisor's Signature: _____

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