



Safety Topic: Line of Fire

Line of fire (LOF) is another phrase for being in harm's way. Line-of-fire injuries occur when the path of a moving object and an individual's body intersect.

- It is important to remember line-of-fire hazards are one of the deadliest hazards found in construction, second only to slips, trips and falls.
- As you consider the possibility of line-of-fire injuries, bear in mind primary ways YOU and YOUR co-workers can become hurt.

Line-of-fire examples include:

1. In the path of moving equipment.
2. Underneath lifted loads or static objects that could fall.
3. Working next to unstable materials that could shift.
4. Working next to objects under tension.
5. Placing hands or body in equipment that can rotate.

Hazard recognition

The key to reducing both on and off the job injuries is learning how to recognize and avoid line-of-fire hazards. By taking three easy steps, you can steer clear of the LOF.

1. Be aware of the hazards around you.
2. Understand the machines and tools in your work area.
3. Take time to think about the consequences that could result from what you are about to do.

How to keep yourself and your co-workers safe

- Look for hazards before you begin working.
- Eliminate the hazard when possible.
- If you can't eliminate, then control the hazard.
- Use best practices for minimizing hazards.