



Equipment: Falling Objects

Struck by falling objects is a leading source of construction fatalities. Even a small object falling from a height can cause serious or fatal injuries.

Here is an Example

Willie was a laborer picking up debris at a construction site. A forklift was lifting a pile of lumber to the third floor next to him. The lumber was not secured and fell three stories from the forklift. One board struck Willie in the head. He was wearing a hard hat, but the accident left him with a concussion.

- 1. What could have been done to prevent this accident?**
- 2. Are materials regularly being lifted by heavy equipment to upper levels on your worksite?**
- 3. If so, what do you do to protect yourself when walking through the site?**

Preventing Being Struck by Equipment or Objects

- Loads should not be hoisted or allowed to pass over people.
- Loads need to be secured when lifted by forklifts.
- Hard hats can help minimize injuries to the head.
- Toe boards need to be placed on all scaffolding and open elevations to protect workers below from falling materials such as lumber, brick, tools, and equipment.
- Materials should be stacked appropriately and not leaning or ready to topple over.
- Tools in elevated working areas need to be secured if close to leading edges.

What Are We Going to Do Today?

What will we do here at the worksite today to prevent being struck by equipment or objects?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

OSHA STANDARD: 1926.250



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