

LINE OF FIRE AWARENESS

Ben Ebner

Johnson Truck Bodies



OBJECTIVES

- What is "Line of Fire"
- Common areas of concern
- Line of Fire examples
- Behaviors
- Identifying the hazards
- Observation and feedback
- What to do when hazards are identified

WHAT IS "LINE OF FIRE"?

- Line of Fire, which was originally a military term, is now commonly used in industrial safety.
 - Situations where workers put themselves in harm's way by virtue of the type of work they are carrying out.
 - Lack of awareness
 - Lack of education
- Hazards can be hard to recognize and can
 - Cause injury
 - Incapacitate
 - In severe cases, kill the employee or coworkers

WHAT IS "LINE OF FIRE"?

 Line of fire hazards are one of the most common hazards found in manufacturing, second only to Slip, Trips, and Falls.

 Between 80-90 percent of all workplace accidents are caused due to unsafe behaviors



COMMON TARGET AREAS OF CONCERN

- Heavy Equipment
- Machinery
- Manufacturing
- Assembly
- Hand and Power Tools
- Material Handling
- Mobile Equipment





LINE OF FIRE EXAMPLES

- Dangers presented by the sudden release of tension
- Gravity
- Moving machinery
- Path of travel
- Flying debris and projectiles



LINE OF FIRE EXAMPLES

- Opening and closing energy control devices
- Being aware of automated equipment and their potential movement
- Pedestrians and moving vehicles
- Contact with stationary hazards





LINE OF FIRE VIDEO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPIK2IOXInc

BEHAVIORS THAT LEAD TO HAZARDS

- Rushing You are in a hurry to complete a task
- Frustration You are angry, irritated, or annoyed
- Fatigue You are tired
- Complacency You have completed a task many times and have never been hurt before



WAYS TO IDENTIFY THE HAZARDS

- Look for hazards before you start working
 - SLAM Risk (Stop-Look-Assess-Manage)
- Ask yourself, "What can hurt me in this job?"
 - If you don't know, ask a coworker or supervisor



OBSERVATION AND FEEDBACK

- Experienced employee can share knowledge with new worker
- Employees can make a safety suggestion to a supervisor
- Crews look at and discuss the safest way to do a task
- Experience and observation are used to keep workers safe

WHAT TO DO WHEN HAZARDS ARE IDENTIFIED

- Eliminate the hazard when possible
 - The best-case scenario is to remove the hazards completely





WHAT TO DO WHEN HAZARDS ARE IDENTIFIED

- If you cannot eliminate, then control
 - If it is not possible to remove the hazards, neutralize them
 - Ask the questions
 - Where could my body be positioned in relation to the hazard?
 - What is the worst-case scenario of my task?
 - How can I protect myself from the hazard?

WHAT TO DO WHEN HAZARDS ARE IDENTIFIED

- Use best practices for minimizing hazards
 - Organize the work area to provide unobstructed and easy access to equipment.
 - Use signs to warn of known line of fire.
 - Keep pathways clear.
 - Eliminate possible pinch points on guarding.
 - Use the correct tool for the job.

KEEPING YOURSELF SAFE IN THE LINE OF FIRE

- Be aware of the hazards around you
- Understand the machines and operations in your work area
- Take time to think about the consequences that could result from what you are about to do





ANY QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU ENJOY THE REST OF THE DAY!