



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Dropped Objects Safety Message

Dropped objects are a serious hazard at many worksites. In 2021, there were 237 workplace fatalities due to falling objects (the most recent statistics available) in the United States, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Furthermore, OSHA estimates that over 50,000 “struck-by a falling object” incidents occur every year.

Safe Work Practices to Prevent Dropped Object Incidents

Eliminate the hazard: Remove objects and tools from higher levels, scaffolding, or aerial lifts that do not need to be there.

Engineering controls: Barricade zones below higher work levels to prevent personnel from walking into the line of fire of a dropped object.

PPE: Anytime there are overhead hazards present on a job site, hardhats need to be worn.

Look at all work areas where a dropped object incident can happen. Situations such as using aerial lifts and working on scaffolds pose obvious hazards, but try to identify less obvious hazards.

Discussion points:

How can we prevent dropped object incidents on our site?

When working in your job area today, look for hazards associated with dropped objects and correct them!