



SAFETY ALERT #40



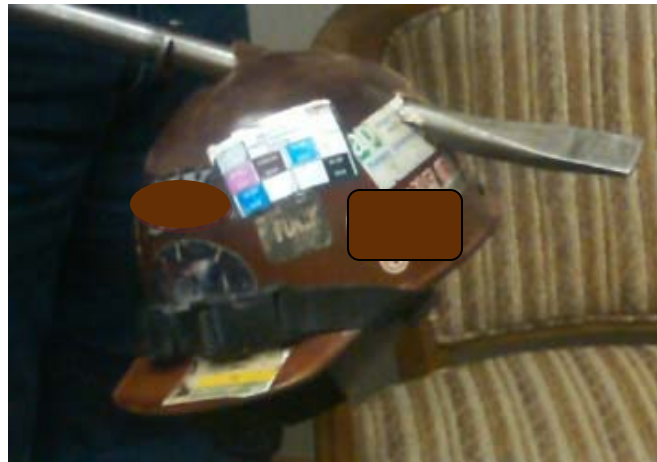
July 12, 2010

In the interest of keeping everyone safe CAMSAFETY will be sharing injury information with preliminary root cause analysis. This information is intended to make you think not assess blame. If you have an incident that you would like to share send us the information and we will pass it along.

FALLING OBJECT – NEAR “HIT”

What Happened

Two ironworkers were working together assembling a structural steel tower. To complete the operation one of the workers had to move higher above his coworker using an aerial lift. When he was about 30 feet above his coworker one of his tools was pulled from its holder by his fall protection lanyard. The tool, a sleever bar, fell from the aerial lift and struck the coworker on the head. The bar pierced the workers hard hat but did not hit his head. He was unharmed, the hard hat did not fare so well. During this operation the company had a worker on the ground insuring that no one got beneath the two elevated workers. They didn't take into consideration that they were creating a “new” hazard for the worker who was above the ground but still below his fellow worker. The company did an immediate safety stand down with the crew to discuss the incident and implement a number of corrective actions.



Prevention:

- Contact the tool manufacturer to discuss design changes to prevent tools from being dislodged from holders;
- Only tools essential to complete assigned tasks will be carried in tool belts;
- Insure that ALL workers working under other operations are protected from falling objects;
- Training on full communication from one operation to another;

MIOSHA Reference

1926.501 Duty to have fall protection

(15)(c) “Protection from falling objects.” When an employee is exposed to falling objects, the employer shall have each employee wear a hard hat and shall implement one of the following measures: (toe boards, canopies or barricades)