Toolbox talk

Struck-by hazards

Backing vehicles and equipment, the swing radius, falling objects, and staying out of the line of fire.

Struck-by injuries come from things that move: trucks backing up, a machine swinging, a tool dropped from above.

Key point **If you can't see the operator's eyes, assume the operator can't see you.**

What happened

In Washington in 2006, a 26-year-old paving laborer stood waiting in a lane where dump trucks were dropping their trailers, with his back to them. A truck began backing toward him. He was in the driver's blind spot, and the truck ran him over. Washington FACE fatality narrative, 2006

Backing vehicles and equipment

A truck that can't see behind it backs up only with a working backup alarm, or with a spotter signaling it's clear. Earthmoving equipment has the same rule.

Don't walk behind backing equipment. Make eye contact with the operator before you cross its path, and wear your hi-vis.

The swing zone

Around a crane, the swinging upper works can strike or pin you. That area gets marked off with lines or barriers, and only people who need to be there go in. Treat an excavator's swing the same way.

Never step between a turning machine and a wall, a truck or a stack of material.

Falling objects

Wear your hard hat when anything can fall. Up top, keep tools tied off or in a bag, and keep toeboards and screens in place. Down below, stay out from under work overhead and from under any suspended load.

Line of fire

Before you start a task, look at what could move, roll, swing, snap or fall, and where you'll be if it does. Stand clear of strapped loads, cables under tension and anything being lifted, pushed or pulled.

Show me Stand behind a parked truck or loader with the operator in the seat, and find the spot where they lose sight of you.

Ask the crew

1. Who is spotting for the trucks, and how will you know they see you?
2. What's working overhead today, and where is the area below it marked off?

Sources: 29 CFR 1926.100; 1926.601(b)(4); 1926.602(a)(9)(ii); 1926.1424(a)(2)

Crew sign-in

Struck-by hazards

Date _____ **Site or project** _____

Presented by _____ **Company** _____

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Signing means you attended this talk and had the chance to ask questions.