

## Training Module: Struck-By Accidents

**Objective:** To know the common hazards associated with falling objects so that accidents can be prevented.

**Trainer's Note:** Poor housekeeping and messy work areas contribute to struck-by accidents. Demonstrate the right method to handle materials. Brainstorm for some possible injuries that could occur as a result of flying or falling objects or moving vehicles. Suggest ways to eliminate or lessen these problems. Suggest appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Encourage workers to practice safe material handling.

### Background

“Struck-by” accidents are related to material handling and housekeeping. Poorly stacked material may fall or slide and objects blocking aisles could cause bumps or tripping. Keep aisles and passageways clear and well marked. Allow safe aisle and door clearance to prevent getting caught or knocking down material.

Tools or loose parts should not be left on window ledges, shelves, cranes or working platforms since they can fall and cause damage or injury to a fellow worker. If there is a potential danger from overhead hazards, wear an approved hard hat (Refer to the module: Protecting the Head). Be alert and report these hazards.

### Potential Struck-By Accident Hazards:

- No side barriers on conveyors.
- Objects leaning against walls, racks, posts or equipment.
- Inadequate guarding on belts or other conveyors traveling from one level to another.
- Unmarked low beams or pipes.
- No screen guard on equipment, or poor or incomplete screening to guard against objects flying off the equipment.

### These potential hazards can be eliminated by:

- Leaving guards or screens in place on equipment as it was manufactured.
- Marking low beams, pipes, and ceilings.
- Proper stacking and storing of objects.

### Avoid careless work habits:

- Doors—Never stand in front of a windowless, swinging door. Before working near a door, post a warning sign or prop the door open. This is especially important if working from a ladder. Do not push the door open rapidly or forcefully. When approaching double doors, follow signs indicating which door to use.

- Inattentiveness—Watch where you are going. Do not get distracted by conversations. Approach a corner or intersection from the center of the hall. Plan to walk to the right, reducing the chance of collisions.

### **Review The Following Points**

- Wear the correct PPE for the job.
- Watch for falling objects or items that block aisles.
- Keep all screens and guards in place.
- Use safe storage and handling procedures.

**True or False Answer Key**

1. F, 2. F, 3. T, 4. T, 5. T

## Struck-By Accidents Quiz

**True or False**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. It is acceptable to remove machine guards if they are in the way.                   | T | F |
| 2. Objects leaning against walls, racks, posts or equipment pose no potential hazards. | T | F |
| 3. Wear the correct Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for the job.                   | T | F |
| 4. Do not leave tools or loose parts on window ledges or other working areas.          | T | F |
| 5. Many accidents occur from careless work habits.                                     | T | F |