LINE OF FIRE AWARENESS

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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=nPlK2lOXInc
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!