



H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 37-26

June 12th, 2026

Simple Tasks Lead to Serious Injuries

According to the National Safety Council (NSC), every seven seconds, a worker is injured on the job. At that rate, 12,600 people in the U.S. are injured at work each day. The good news is that on-the-job injuries are often preventable, and at GIS, our health, safety, and environmental professionals are committed to finding the root cause of every occupational injury or illness.

After a recent review of lagging indicators, which are events such as incidents that have already occurred, it was found that most **serious injuries and illnesses** that **occur at GIS** do not occur from “high-risk” work activities but often occur **during “low-risk” or everyday job tasks**.

While there are many reasons behind this, the most common **causes are complacency or overconfidence** in the job task and **failure to identify a job step** because there appears to be no risk associated with it. Some of the most recent examples involve using cutting devices to remove packaging from equipment and lifting materials such as flanges for storage.

To help reduce the risk of injury or illness with simple tasks, we are asking every employee to:

- Understand that routine tasks can cause us to drop our guard and let complacency to take hold.
- When performing any job step, regardless of how simple, **STOP** and ask, “**What could go wrong?**”
- Always include simple job steps in your hazard identification and JSEA.
- If any tools or materials are involved, a hazard assessment should be conducted, and control measures should be implemented.
- **Take a quick break before performing any job step, no matter how simple, for your safety.**



SAFETY ALERT

