



HEALTH, SAFETY,
& ENVIRONMENTAL



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Every Incident Has a Warning Sign

A review of recent incidents identified recurring trends involving personnel, equipment, vehicles, hoses, and suspended loads interacting with surrounding hazards. Although these events occurred during different tasks and work environments, they shared a common characteristic: **the hazard was present before the event occurred but was not recognized or controlled.**

Common Risk Factors Identified:

Line-of-Fire and Caught-Between Hazards

Employees, equipment, hoses, and suspended loads can unexpectedly interact with nearby structures, materials, piping, scaffolding, and process equipment. Examples include:

- Feet and hands entering pinch points.
- Suspended loads contacting nearby structures.
- Hoses or cables becoming snagged during operations.
- Equipment movement within congested work areas.

Situational Awareness

Conditions can change throughout the workday, requiring reassessment of the work area and associated hazards.

We should continuously reassess:

- Access routes
- Hose and cable routing
- Ground and roadway conditions
- Equipment positioning
- Changing weather conditions
- Nearby personnel and ongoing work activities

Transportation and Travel Hazards

Travel routes should be evaluated before proceeding through unfamiliar or questionable conditions. Standing water, soft ground, restricted visibility, and changing roadway conditions, and unexpected obstacles can quickly create vehicle-related incidents. Stop, assess conditions, and choose the safest path before proceeding.

Expectations

All employees are expected to:

- Conduct a thorough JSEA and risk assessment before beginning work.
- Identify line-of-fire and caught-between exposures before moving materials, hoses, equipment, or suspended loads.
- Verify clear travel paths for vehicle, hoses, equipment, and crane loads.
- Maintain good housekeeping and keep work areas organized to minimize trip and obstruction hazards.
- Stop work and reassess whenever conditions change, or new hazards are identified.
- Exercise Stop Work Authority whenever an unsafe condition exists, or a hazard cannot be adequately controlled.

Supervisors are expected to:

- Discuss line-of-fire, struck-by, and caught-between hazards during daily safety meetings.
- Review hose routing, load paths, and equipment positioning during pre-job planning.
- Verify areas are free of unnecessary obstructions.
- Reinforce **Safe to Start** throughout the workday.
- Encourage proactive hazard recognition and intervention before incidents occur.

Key Learning

Too often, our focus narrows to the immediate task at hand. When this occurs, we may overlook nearby hazards that can create injury potential, equipment damage, environmental releases, or operational disruptions.

Before starting work, ask yourself:

- What can I get caught between?
- What can my equipment contact or damage?
- What could become snagged, struck, or displaced?
- Has my work area changed since the job was planned?
- What happens if conditions are not exactly as expected?

Taking a moment to identify these hazards before beginning work can prevent incidents before they occur.

Remember: Most incidents do not occur because hazards appear suddenly. They occur because hazards go unrecognized or underestimated. Before starting any task, take a moment to stop, look beyond immediate job, and evaluate your surroundings. The safest outcome is the incident that never happens because someone took the time to recognize the warning signs and control the hazards before work began.

Proper use of the **GIS LIFE Processes** can help to create a **FAIL-SAFE** Work Environment

SAFETY ALERT

