

KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Falls from Moving Machinery



TEAMWORK
IMPROVES SAFETY

Signatures

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One of the most dangerous jobs facing construction workers involves working with and around equipment used to handle materials.

Here is an Example: A vineyard hired a heavy equipment operator to dig ditches and mix fertilizer. The operator used a back-hoe attached to a large tractor. The tractor's seat belt was broken and could not be fastened. For unknown reasons the tractor slid into a drainage ditch and tipped over. Without the seat belt the operator fell out of his seat and into the ditch. The roll bar crushed his leg when the tractor continued to turn over.

1. Why did this mishap happen?
2. Have you climbed onto a forklift or any equipment that was carrying materials or allowed someone else to hitch a ride?

Preventing Injuries from Equipment:

- Review the entire operator's manual before you work with a new piece of equipment.
- Check the equipment and controls every day before you begin work.
- Always put the transmission in park, shut off the motor and set the brakes before working on equipment.
- Keep grease and fluids off the walking surfaces to prevent slips and falls. Use 3 points of contact when entering and exiting equipment (such as two hands and one foot).
- Prevent Rollovers by not traveling on or working parallel to steep grades, embankments, or unstable soil.
- If possible, operate equipment that has a ROPS (rollover protective structure) and fasten the seatbelt.
- If equipment is rolling over or out of control, do not jump if it has a ROPS and seatbelt; you have a better chance of riding it out with a ROPS and your seat belt fastened.

For more information visit OSHA Standard: 29 CFR 1926.1000

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Teamwork Improves Safety!

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