CRUSHPOINTS

caught between objects

Hand injuries continue to be the leading cause of incidents in the construction industry, and they continue to be the leading cause of recordable injuries on our projects. Many of these result when our hands or other body parts become caught between two objects. This incident affected the employee and his family severely. He was off work for two months. While reviewing this incident, think about how many times your hands could be caught between objects.

What Happened?

During the mating of two pontoons, the employee caught his thumb in a crush point. The pontoons were brought together and the employee had his hand inside the mating key, installing shim packs, when the wave action caused the pontoons to shift. This crushed the employee’s thumb between the mating key and the pontoon.

Preventative Actions:

- Review and follow the established procedures. Is everyone aware and on board?
- Install shim packs or spacers prior to bringing the objects together.

What else could be done to prevent this type of incident from occurring?

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CRUSHPOINTS

Crush points are among the most common hazards in the workplace and they are the cause of many serious types of injuries.

Practice safety. Every day. Every time.

Nobody Gets Hurt.
CRUSH POINTS
caught between objects

List three areas on your jobsite that could result in this type of injury or result in your hands becoming caught between two objects, and identify how you will avoid them.

Where (or How) can this happen on my site today?

1. ___________________________________

   ___________________________________

2. ___________________________________

   ___________________________________

3. ___________________________________

   ___________________________________

What can I do to prevent this injury from occurring?

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To avoid CRUSH POINTS, ask yourself these questions:

- Is there an object that can be placed in the crush point area to prevent you from getting caught in ‘the bite’ (i.e. wood block, steel wedge, etc.)?
- Can your task be performed without placing your hands or body in a potentially dangerous situation?
- Has the proper planning been completed to ensure potential crush points have been engineered out of the operation?