

Tailgate talk

Today's Subject:

Conveyor safety

Date: _____

While conveyor belts might not appear too dangerous at first, the reality is that many folks have been killed or suffered injuries because of inadvertent contact with conveyor systems.

Here's why: The many moving and rotating parts can be hazardous. It's important to exercise caution and know how to prevent incidents.

What to focus on

Here are five things to keep in mind when working near conveyor belts.

1. Dress safely. Wear protective gear such as a hard hat and gloves. If your hair is long, tie it back and tuck it in. Don't wear baggy clothing or loose jewelry.

2. Identify the location of emergency stop buttons, and know how to operate them.

3. Reduce the chances of inadvertent contact. Keep a safe distance from the conveyors. Don't climb or step on or over conveyors. Don't ride or sit on them either.

4. Don't load a stopped conveyor or overload a moving one. Overloading the equipment is dangerous and can cause overheating.

5. Keep objects away from conveyors. Clearing the area of objects reduces the potential for tripping injuries. This is particularly important in loading and unloading areas.