

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY ONLINE RESOURCE

Prevention of struck-by related injuries

Causes of struck-by injuries

Struck-by injuries are a significant concern on construction projects, where workers are at risk of being hit by moving objects, vehicles, equipment, or materials. These injuries can range from minor bruises to fatal incidents. The common causes of struck-by related injuries in construction include the following:

- **Falling objects:** Tools, materials, or debris falling from heights can strike workers below. Inadequate securing of loads and lack of overhead protection are contributing factors.
- **Vehicle and equipment movement:** Moving vehicles and heavy equipment are common on construction sites. Workers can be struck by these if there is poor visibility, inadequate traffic control, or lack of signaller during backing vehicles.
- **Swinging or slipping objects:** Loads being moved by cranes or other lifting equipment can swing and strike workers. Similarly, materials hoisted or handled improperly can slip and fall, causing injuries.
- **Flying debris:** Activities like cutting, grinding, or blasting can generate flying debris that can strike workers, especially if proper guards or personal protective equipment (PPE) are not used.

To prevent these injuries, it is crucial to implement safety measures such as securing loads, using barriers, enforcing PPE usage, and providing proper training to workers on situational awareness and equipment handling.

Download IHSA's
struck-by toolkit



Visit IHSA's
struck-by topic
page



Online resources

The Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA) offers a variety of online resources to help prevent struck-by injuries on construction sites. These resources can provide valuable information and guidance to workers and employers to reduce the risk of struck-by injuries on construction sites.

This document was developed by the Niagara Regional Labour-Management Health and Safety Committee, in partnership with IHSA, to provide information on occupational health and safety related to preventing struck-by hazards. The links and QR codes included in this document can be opened, viewed, and shared on most mobile devices.

Please note: this document is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, or intend to constitute, legal advice or service.