

TOOLBOX TALK #25

OPERATING CRANES SAFELY

OSHA recently released a reminder of the importance of crane safety.

“The most common crane hazards leading to serious injuries and fatalities include crane tip-overs, being struck by a crane, electrocutions, being caught in between a crane and other equipment or objects, falls from the equipment, and unqualified operators,” the Agency says.

Do you operate a crane on your jobsite? Here are some tips from OSHA on safe use:

- Don't operate a damaged crane or one you suspect may malfunction.
- Don't attempt to lengthen wire rope or repair damaged wire rope.
- Don't use the wire rope or any part of the crane, hoist, or the load block and hook as a ground for welding.
- Never allow a welding electrode to touch the wire rope.
- Refrain from removing or obscuring warning labels on the crane or hoist.
- Never walk under a suspended load or allow anyone else to.
- Ensure no work is performed on a suspended load that requires a worker to be positioned under it.
- Always wear personal protective equipment such as gloves, a hard hat, hearing protection, foot protection and eye protection.

