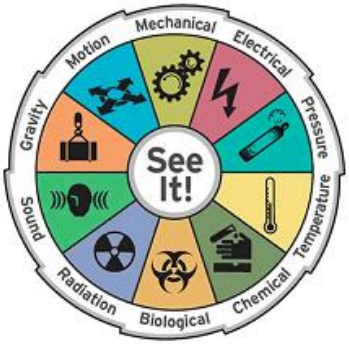
Intro



Line-of-Fire (LOF) is another phrase for being in harm's way. Line-of-Fire injuries occur when the path of a moving object and an individual's body intersect. Line-of-Fire is a broad category that includes events or exposures to high energy hazards. We can break them down into three main types, Caught-In, Caught-Between, and Struck-By. It is important to remember Line-of-Fire hazards are one of the deadliest hazards found in construction, second only to Slips, Trips and Falls.

As you consider the possibility of Line-of-Fire injuries, bear in mind primary ways workers can become hurt. Identify Line-of-Fire hazards during the pre-planning process. Learn to anticipate how Line-of-Fire will develop on a job, task by task. Train workers on how to identify high energy hazards on the job, the Energy Wheel is a great tool for this. Establish, enforce, and monitor exclusion zones or Line-of-Fire from Above Zones (LOFFAZ). Take proactive measures to monitor and control any hazards that cannot be eliminated. Keep in mind that many Line-of-Fire hazards develop during the evolution of work. What may not be a hazard one moment may become a hazard after a change in conditions.

Caught-In / Caught-Between

Caught-In and Caught-Between are similar and many times grouped together, as is the case in OSHA's Focus Four definition.

"Injuries resulting from a person being squeezed, caught, crushed, pinched, or compressed between two or more objects, or between parts of an object. This includes individuals who get caught or crushed in operating equipment, between other mashing objects, between a moving and stationary object, or between two or more moving objects."

Struck-By

According to OSHA, "Struck" or "Struck-By" is defined as "injuries produced by forcible contact or impact between the injured person and an object or piece of equipment."

Lock-Out/Tag-Out (LOTO)

- Identify and label all sources of hazardous energy
- Block or dissipate stored energy
- Lockout and tagout all forms of hazardous energy
- Make sure that only one key exists for each of your assigned locks and that only you hold that key.
- Verify by test and/or observation that all energy sources are de-energized.
- Inspect repair work before removing your lock and activating the equipment.
- Make sure that only you remove your assigned lock.
- Make sure that you and your coworkers are clear of danger points before re-energizing the system.
- Ensure worker participation in training, hazard ID, control strategies.

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