

SE TX OSHA Four Things to Know (November 2024)

An overview of what is happening in regards to safety in SE Texas and OSHA



1 – November 2024 Preliminary Fatalities/Catastrophes* (4)

Construction

- **NAICS 237130** – Employee fell approximately 140' off a communications tower.
- **NAICS 238140** – Winching panels in place when the scaffold being used fell over and employee fell about 12'.

General Industry

- **NAICS 213112** – Employee caught between a backing truck and the connecting equipment.
- **NAICS 811111** – Employee cleaning and removing trash in front of property 8' from the roadway was struck by a truck.

2 – OSHA Publications/Resources Spotlight

Updated OSHA Arc Flash Hazards Webpage and Guides

<https://www.osha.gov/electrical/flash-hazards>

Celebrate Excellence: Recognize Safety and Health Achievements

https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/resources_shp_recognition_guide.pdf

Clean Up Hazards Fact Sheet Updated

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA3276.pdf>

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA3298.pdf>

3 – November 2024 Preliminary Serious Incident Reports (31 Reports)

Construction (5 Reports) – Three '**falls**' occurred including a fall on the same level when their safety shoe was caught on a track hoe, a fall from a roof when they stepped on banding holding insulation in place and the banding snapped, and a fall off the 4th step of a A-frame ladder while holding a pipe while the support was being cut. One '**caught between**' incident occurred involving two employees standing behind a light duty truck and a dump truck backed into them. One '**other**' incident occurred when a flash fire occurred while welding on a pipe and the pressure containment pig came out of the pipe.

General Industry (26 Reports) – Ten '**caught between**' incidents involving a dough machine when they reached in to adjust a guide wheel and attempted to remove a dough ball, while cleaning a machine a cloth and fingertips were pulled into the machine, a buggy that overturned while transitioning from a paved surface to uneven gravel and they lost control, an actuator sleeve and actuator flange during testing, a table and metal being moved by an overhead crane and it was moving too fast and they tried to stop it, a radiator and a mounting flange while installing a large transformer, a turntable when they turned it on and their finger was caught, a gloved pulled into a nip point while setting up a machine, a wall and a 80,000 pound battery being lowered by a crane when a gust of wind shifted the load, and a truck and a jack when the jack slipped Seven '**struck by**' injuries occurred while opening a box with a box cutter, a forklift that shifted when the load shifted during movement, a piece of metal that fell when a cart tipped over, a shifting refrigerator being taken down the stairs and the other employee lost their grip, a conveyor hook the employee didn't notice coming down the line, a parked cart when a tug operator with the foot outside the cab went past it, and a truck while cutting grass on the side of the street. Five '**falls**' including a 10' fall off an elevated platform when they leaned on a gate they thought was latched but was only secured with twine, a slip and fall onto hot wax, a trip while stepping over a fan cord, 6' off a ladder while removing a bolt from a connection plate, and a slip and fall from a berry or grape in the walk-in cooler. Three '**other**' incidents involving burns from hot water while walking by a control panel and a bolt broke, smoke inhalation when a flash/explosion occurred below where they were working, and burns from a leaking fitting on a LPG cylinder that ignited. One '**electrical**' incident occurred when they contacted a powerline when the cut tree branch on a rope pushed it towards them

4 – Enforcement

- Comment Period for the Proposed Rule for Indoor and Outdoor Heat extended to January 14, 2025
<https://www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/osha-national-news-release/20241202-0>

*This information has been developed by an OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist and is intended to assist employers, workers, and others improve workplace health and safety. While we attempt to thoroughly address specific topics [or hazards], it is not possible to include discussion of everything necessary to ensure a healthy and safe working environment in this presentation. This information is a tool for addressing workplace hazards, and is not an exhaustive statement of an employer's legal obligations, which are defined by statute, regulations, and standards. This document does not have the force and effect of law and is not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. It does not create (or diminish) legal obligations under the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Finally, OSHA may modify rules and related interpretations in light of new technology, information, or circumstances; to keep apprised of such developments, or to review information on a wide range of occupational safety and health topics, you can visit OSHA's website at www.osha.gov. **Incident information is based on first reports so information may change and is edited for length.** Every incident may not be included. For questions contact Jim Shelton at Shelton.james@dol.gov