Toolbox Talks

Weekly Tailgate Topic 12-31

Discuss with crews on [INSERT DATE]

Working with a Transfer Trailer

When working around heavy machinery, you should always stand clear, and not be forgetful of the potentially deadly power of the machinery that you are working near. When we become complacent, we assume that nothing will happen to us, as we've been working that way without injury or incident for a long time. We often blindly rely on others to make sure their equipment/work has been inspected and is in good order and that they operate and work safely.

A lot of our work involves working with truck and transfers. In the past, incidents have occurred where a transfer trailer box has slid out of the dump-truck box while it is raised. This occurs when the "dawgs" or hooks that hold the transfer trailer in place unhook themselves from the dump-truck's box, allowing the transfer trailer to slide out the back end.

This possibility presents a serious safety concern if a worker were behind the transfer trailer when it was to slide out of the dump-truck's box. The worker could potentially be crushed by the force and weight of the box. Therefore, to prevent a serious injury from occurring, please review the following safe work procedure and ensure you understand it and follow it when work must be completed with a transfer trailer, to maintain your own safety.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD A WORKER STAND BEHIND A DUMP-TRUCK (WITH TRANSFER BOX) WHILE THE BOX IS BEING RAISED OR LOWERED, OR WHILE IT IS IN THE RAISED POSITION.

1. Ensure the transfer box is securely attached to the dump-truck. (Dawgs hooked in position, chains)
2. Ensure that no workers enter the "danger zone" behind the dump-truck while the box is being raised or lowered, or while it is in the raised position.
3. The dump-truck must dump the material on the ground, with the spreader chains attached, and then lower its box before workers begin working with the material.

Accidents happen for a number of reasons, some of which are not predictable. This is why it is always important to lookout for yourself by using common sense and following safety direction such as safe work practices and daily work plans. This includes not only the work that you are performing, but what others are doing around you. Please work intelligently