



IUEC INCIDENT SUMMARY

CLOSE CALLS, NEAR MISSES AND INJURIES

"CLOSE CALL"





Description of Incident

Control Type: Electric

Machine Type: MRL

Speed: N/A

Capacity: N/A

Rise: 41 Stop

Hoistway Configuration: Simplex

- A mechanic and an assistant mechanic were working in the overhead performing layout for a machine. They heard another worker on the job yell to alert them that something was falling down the hoistway.
- The team did not see the object but heard it hitting equipment as it fell down the hoistway.
- After the noise stopped, they went to investigate. They found at the 7th floor the side wall was blown out by a rail spreader bracket that had come down the hoistway.
- The team is unaware what floor the bracket came from or how it was knocked down the hoistway. Luckily, there were no injuries.

• Possible root causes

- Material placed too close to the hoistway and was not secured.
- The GC had not provided secure access areas or protection in front of the hoistways.



Recommendations and Lessons Learned

Always follow the company safety policy.

Always perform a JHA/JSA

29 CFR OSHA 1926

1926.250(b)(1)

Material stored inside buildings under construction shall not be placed within 6 feet of any hoistway or inside floor openings, nor within 10 feet of an exterior wall which does not extend above the top of the material stored.

Field Employees Safety Handbook

4.2 guardrail systems General

OSHA compliant guardrail systems for car tops, open hoistways or escalator wellways shall have a top rail 42 in. +or-3in. (1067 mm +or- 76 mm high, with a midrail 21 in. (533 mm) high at the centerline and toeboards 3-1/2 in.(90 mm) high, with no greater than 8 ft. (2.4m) between uprights and shall be capable of sustaining a force equal to 200 lbs. (890N) at the toprail, 150 lbs. (667N) at the midrail, and 50 lbs. (222N) at the toeboard. When 200 lbs. (890N) is applied, the top rail shall not deflect lower than 39 in. (991mm).

(a) OSHA compliant removable guardrail systems with toe boards shall be installed at the elevator hoistways or escalator wellways typically by the General Contractor, after either rough or finished floors are in place.

(b) Signs shall be installed warning against removal. It is also recommended that a sign indicate "Caution: Workers in Hoistway."

(g) On new installation, modernization, or major repair jobs where the general public is present, solid barricades at least 8 ft (2.4 m) high shall be used to fully enclose the work areas, open hoistways and escalator wellways.

They shall be properly secured to avoid unauthorized access.