

SAFETY TALKS



Specialized
Carriers &
Rigging
Association

OUR MEMBERS **LIFT & MOVE** THE WORLD

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INTRODUCTION

The Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association Safety Talks publication provides safety talks particularly targeted toward the crane, rigging, and millwright segments of the construction industry. Each talk is designed for field presentation and contains signature sheets for verification that individuals received and understood the presentation. Safety Talks are designed to enhance safety on the job site and instill safety concerns in the mind of each employee. These talks can be used as a best practice in following OSHA's Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 1926 for Construction, 1926.21(b)(2) which states, "The employer shall instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to his work environment to control or eliminate any hazards or other exposure to illness or injury." SC&RA recommends industry participants constantly upgrade safety procedures and maintain the highest proficiency in the constantly changing workplace.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association thanks the members of the Crane & Rigging Group's Safety Talks Task Force and Safety Education & Training Committee for their time and expertise in updating these Safety Talks.

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PREVENTING HAND INJURIES AND PROPER PPE

Protecting your fingers and hands is important for your work and quality of life. Work-related hand injuries are one of the leading reasons workers go to the emergency room and miss work. Damage to the nerves in your fingers and hands over a career can cause permanent damage and possibly loss of function in later years.

MOST COMMON HAND INJURY CAUSES:

- **Punctures, cuts, or lacerations** – caused by contact with sharp, spiked, or jagged edges on equipment, tools, or materials.
- **Crushed, fractures or amputations** – caused by contact with gears, belts, wheels, and rollers, falling objects, and rings, gloves or clothing getting caught and putting your hand in harm's way.
- **Strains, sprains, and other musculoskeletal injuries** – caused by using the wrong tool for the job, or one that is too big, small, or heavy for your hand.
- **Burns** – caused by direct contact with a hot surface or a chemical.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES:

- Wear gloves that fit your hand and are right for the work being performed – not all gloves protect against all hazards.
- Keep guards on machinery and power tools in place – Don't remove or reposition them
- Don't put your hands or fingers near the moving parts of a power tool or equipment
- Use tools to remove your hands from the line of fire when doing a work task that could result in injury to your hands or fingers. Push sticks when using a table saw is an example that removes your hands from the line of fire.
- Use tools and equipment designed for the work being performed and use them as instructed by your supervisor and/or the manufacturer.
- Avoid using fixed open blade knives. There are safety knives that limit the length of the blade exposed.
- Never put your hands in an area where you cannot see.

GLOVE TYPES COMMONLY USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY:

- **Leather gloves:** These gloves are the most commonly used for everyday tasks. These gloves offer a good grip and are spark resistant and protect from sharp or abrasive surfaces.
- **Aluminized gloves:** These gloves are recommended for welding, furnace, and foundry work, as they provide reflective and insulating protection.
- **Kevlar gloves:** These have a wide variety of industrial applications. They are cut- and abrasion-resistant and provide protection against both heat and cold.

SUMMARY

- Remember, not all types gloves are effective for all types of hazards.
- Ensure that you are wearing the proper gloves for the task and that they fit correctly.
- Inattentiveness is one leading causes of hand injuries so stop and think before you stick your hands in the line of fire.
- Do not become statistic!

Date of Meeting	Person Conducting Meeting
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After the information has been explained to the work force, everybody must sign below:

Signature:

[illegible]