



TOOLBOX TALKS

Struck-by Toolbox Talk # 7

Preventing Runovers and Backovers

Can you be safe near equipment and traffic?

Being struck-by a vehicle or piece of a equipment is the biggest danger in road work. Workers on foot must remain alert at all times. Check your surroundings often. Listen for warnings. Keep a safe distance from traffic. Stay behind barriers where possible. Look out for each other. Warn coworkers.

What about construction equipment? Treat equipment and vehicles with caution:

1. Stay out of “blind spots”.
2. Communicate with operators by radio and/or eye contact.
3. Don’t approach until you communicate with the operator and he/she acknowledges you.
4. Stay outside a “safety circle” around equipment. If you can’t see the operator, he/she can’t see you.
5. Stay clear of vehicles. Know the traffic control plan.
6. Use spotters when you must work with your back to equipment or traffic.

What other precautions do we need? Employers must provide proper personal protective equipment (PPE); Workers must wear it:

1. Proper class of safety vest at all times in the work zone.
2. High-visibility clothing and headgear.



Discussion: Do you know the difference between Class 1, 2, and 3 garments? What PPE are you using at this site? Have there been any close calls or actual incidents at this site? What are we doing at this site to prevent struck-by incidents?

*Source: American Road and Transportation Builders Association

This information has been developed by OSHA and its partners with the intent to assist employers, workers, and others as they strive to improve workplace health and safety. This information must be understood as a tool for addressing workplace hazards, rather than an exhaustive statement of an employer’s legal obligations, which are defined by statute, regulations, and standards.

