How can you safely work near moving/energized parts

[Ask the following questions and give time for answers.]

What are the hazards? Bodily contact with moving and energized parts, potential and stored energy

What are the results? Broken or crushed limbs and bones, suffocation, punctures, head injury, internal damage, amputations and death

What should we look for? Machine guards, moving and energized parts, nip-points, lockout/tagout, loose/hanging clothing, jewelry and hair

[Relate this incident or one you know.]

Actual Incident: A 43-year-old worker was killed when his sweatshirt became entangled around an unguarded Power Take Off (PTO) shaft on a salt truck. The mechanical crew repaired the bed chain on the vehicle prior to the incident but returned the truck to service without installing the shaft guard that covered the PTO shaft. It appeared that when the victim walked to the rear of the truck to check the salt spreader, his orange safety sweatshirt was caught by the rotating shaft stub. The victim was found entangled by a co-worker and transported to a hospital by EMS where he was pronounced dead.

[Ask the following questions about this site and ensure every item is covered.]

Let’s talk about this site now.

☐ How can you prevent accidental contact with energized equipment and moving parts? Guard moving and energized parts or lockout/tagout.

☐ What should you do if you notice a missing or broken/altered guard? Do not use equipment, shut it down when it is safe to do so and inform supervisor of danger.

☐ Does your company have a machine guarding safety program; have you read it?

[Discuss equipment and machinery on your site that could create a caught in hazard.]

Source: IUOE National Training Fund • www.iuohazmat.org

OSHA and our construction industry partners, such as the Mid-Atlantic Construction Safety Council, have initiated a “Focus Four Hazards” campaign throughout OSHA’s Region III’s jurisdiction. The goal of this campaign is to raise awareness in the recognition, evaluation, and control of these hazards. Focus Four Hazards account for the vast majority of injuries and fatalities in the construction industry.