

Safety Flash

Incident with Recordable Injury

Date of Incident: 6/26/2021

The Incident

A crew was performing demolition on x-bracing. After the last cut had been made on one piece, the x-brace hit the associate in the face/head. A prescription-strength pill was given for pain management, causing this to be a recordable incident.

The Causes

- Time constraints, due to plant overhead crane availability.
- It was the last piece of x-bracing to be demoed that day.
- The x-bracing had a lot debris/dust on it, which caused very limited vision when disturbed.
- Every other cut had been completed with no issues.
- When cutting the piece, some tension will always be on the crane line.
- Due to obstructions on this cut, the tension on the crane line was pulling the piece toward the employee.

Prevent It

- Use a different cutting sequence to reduce tension on the crane line. (Cut the steel itself instead of cutting the bolts.)
- Use a longer cutting torch to put the employee further from the piece.
- Have the steel cleaned/vacuumed before starting this task.

Action Plan

- The incident review will be shared with the site crews and distributed companywide.
- The Safety Flash will be posted on company intranet.

Keep Improving

Your health and safety are the most important part of every project. We need *your* help to eliminate unsafe behaviors and conditions. If you see a safer and better way to do a task, see your supervisor, or contact GEM Safety: Bill Cornett – 419-720-2728. To get personal protection equipment from the warehouse, call 419-720-2688.