Job site:	Date:	
Foreman:	G.C.	

SMOHIT Safety SenseToolbox Talks for the Sheet Metal Industry

Construction Equipment Safety

- On many job sites, there are other trades working at the same time as sheet metal workers. On construction sites especially, sheet metal workers may have to work around heavy equipment and machinery.
- OSHA has identified "crushed by" hazards as one of the four leading causes of construction fatalities.
- Don't count on equipment operators to protect you. Most times it is very difficult for them to see or hear you. You must be especially alert around construction equipment and protect yourself.
- Let equipment operators know you are working in the area, and tell them exactly where you will be.
- If it is possible, maintain contact with equipment operators either by hand signals or by two-way radio.
- Always listen for backup alarms. It is easy for you to block them out when they are being used constantly, but it is better to be aware of all rather than to be injured by ignoring just one.
- Watch out for pinch points between heavy equipment and immovable objects.
- Stand clear of construction equipment moving in reverse.
- No equipment operator should back a vehicle into an area without someone giving direction.
- Don't ride on material being transported by equipment, and don't walk next to moving construction equipment.
- Never walk under loads on cranes or hoists.

Instructor Tips

- Ask workers to recall experiences of working around construction equipment.
- Remind workers that they should never attempt to adjust or repair equipment in operation.

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Reference: OSHA 29 CFR 1926.550, .600, .601, .602