

Stop Dropped Objects, Save Lives

Dropped objects are a serious hazard in many industries, particularly in construction, manufacturing, and mining. These incidents can result in severe injuries or even death, and they can also cause significant property damage. In fact, according to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), dropped objects are the leading cause of non-fatal injuries in the construction industry.

There are many different causes of dropped object incidents, but some of the most common include:

- **Improper handling of materials:** This includes lifting materials incorrectly, failing to secure materials properly, and using the wrong equipment for the job.
- **Poor housekeeping:** This includes leaving materials lying around, failing to clean up spills, and not providing proper lighting.
- **Equipment failure:** This can include problems with cranes, hoists, and other lifting equipment.
- **Human error:** This can include fatigue, distraction, and lack of training.

The risks associated with dropped object incidents can be significant. These incidents can cause:

Don't Let It Fall: Stop Dropped Objects, Save Lives!

by Arnold Marsden

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5



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- **Injuries:** Dropped objects can cause a variety of injuries, including head injuries, fractures, and lacerations. In some cases, these injuries can be fatal.
- **Property damage:** Dropped objects can damage equipment, structures, and other property. This damage can be costly to repair or replace.
- **Lost productivity:** Dropped object incidents can cause lost productivity due to injuries, equipment damage, and cleanup. This can lead to financial losses for businesses.

There are a number of steps that can be taken to prevent dropped object incidents. These steps include:

- **Properly handling materials:** This includes lifting materials correctly, securing materials properly, and using the right equipment for the job.
- **Good housekeeping:** This includes keeping work areas clean, organized, and free of tripping hazards.
- **Regular equipment maintenance:** This includes inspecting and maintaining cranes, hoists, and other lifting equipment regularly.

- **Training:** This includes training workers on proper lifting techniques, safe work practices, and the hazards of dropped objects.
- **Use of personal protective equipment (PPE):** This includes wearing hard hats, safety glasses, and gloves when working in areas where dropped objects are a hazard.

Dropped objects are a serious hazard that can have a significant impact on safety and productivity. By taking the steps outlined in this article, you can help to prevent dropped object incidents and keep your workplace safe.



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