



February 26 — Barricade Breach Under Suspended Rigging

<p>While all barricades were in place and door was closed with suspended rigging above waiting for load to arrive back to crane bay crew from another contractor was observed opening the door and walking throughout the barricades meanwhile stringing out hoses and moving miscellaneous equipment unaware to potential hazards above</p>	<p>Came over radio, sounded crane horn, got more employees to notify the other contractor.</p>
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All barricades were in place and the door was closed while rigging was suspended overhead, waiting for the load to return to the crane bay. A crew from another contractor was observed opening the door, crossing through the barricades, and stringing hoses and moving equipment inside the restricted area, unaware of the overhead hazards.

**A door was shut, a line was drawn,
But others stepped where they didn't belong.
Above them hung a load so wide,
Respect the lines that guard your side.**

The controls were in place but they were bypassed. Barricades and closed doors exist to separate people from danger, especially when loads are suspended overhead. When another crew enters a controlled zone without understanding the hazards above, the risk becomes immediate and severe. Suspended rigging doesn't care who opened the door or who "didn't know."

A barricade only works if everyone respects it.

Hazards

- Struck-by injuries from falling or shifting loads
- Crush injuries from suspended rigging failure
- People unknowingly entering the line of fire
- Trip hazards from hoses and equipment in restricted zones
- Chain-reaction incidents if workers panic or scatter

Stats

- Suspended loads are among the highest-severity hazards in industrial environments
- Many serious incidents occur when barricaded zones are breached by unauthorized personnel
- Cross-contractor communication failures are a common root cause in line-of-fire incidents
- OSHA identifies struck-by hazards as one of the leading causes of construction fatalities

Words of Wisdom

- A barricade ignored is a hazard created.
- If the door is closed, there's a reason.

Pause and Think

Different crews often work in the same areas with different tasks and priorities. When one crew assumes a barricade is temporary or inconvenient, they walk into hazards they don't see. Suspended loads are especially dangerous because the risk isn't always visible from the floor. Respecting boundaries isn't about rules — it's about survival.

- How do we communicate hazards across contractors?
- What should you do if you don't understand why an area is barricaded?
- Who has the authority to stop someone from entering a restricted zone?