



SHARP START



September 25 - Stay Out of the Pinch Point

Lifting megatex screens and cleaning underneath them. Severe pinch point potential.	Used pry bars and wedges to hold up screens while, air was used to clean out the tracks and screens.
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Control the Load Before You Work Around It

Employees were working on Megatex screens and needed to clean underneath them. The screens had to be lifted, creating a severe pinch-point potential for anyone working around or underneath them.

Instead of relying on someone to hold the screens in position, pry bars and wedges were used to secure and hold the screens up while compressed air was used to clean the tracks and screens.

When working around equipment that can move, shift, or fall, it is important to control that movement before placing yourself in the area. A screen that shifts unexpectedly can quickly trap or crush hands, arms, or other parts of the body.

Taking the time to properly support the equipment creates a safer work area and allows the task to be completed without putting employees in the line of fire.

Hazards

- Pinch point injuries
- Unexpected movement of screens
- Caught between hazards
- Crushing injuries
- Employees working beneath unsecured equipment

Words of Wisdom

Never rely on your hands, a coworker, or luck to keep equipment from moving. Properly support and secure the equipment before placing yourself near a pinch point.

Pause and Think

- What could happen if the screen shifted while you were underneath it?
- Is the equipment properly supported before you begin cleaning?
- Have you eliminated the pinch point or simply accepted it?
- Are you using the proper tools to hold equipment securely?
- Where would your hands or body be if the equipment moved unexpectedly?

Closing Thought

Don't put yourself between a person and a moving piece of equipment. Control the movement, eliminate the pinch point, and then do the work.

See Something • Say Something • Do Something