



DECEMBER 4 — Red Zone Needs Hard Lines

The pipe moved through open air with no barricades, just a worker standing guard like human traffic control. Task fixation narrowed vision, social pressure whispered, “don’t slow us down,” and complacency promised “nothing will go wrong.” But gravity doesn’t accept apologies.

When heavy loads begin to glide,
A boundary keeps you safe outside.
Mark the zone, protect the crew—
The strongest shield is made by YOU, IT’S NOT YOU

Running a lift without barricades is like cooking with boiling water while kids run behind you — you’re trusting chance, not control. Lets take the time and protect ourselves as we would protect those kids.

Hazards

- Struck-by injuries
- Load slippage
- Multi-person impact
- Red-zone/hoisting violations

Stats

- #2 cause of construction deaths = struck-by
- 75% of red-zone injuries lack barricades
- Over 10,000 uncontrolled load injuries per year

Words of Wisdom

Barricades aren’t optional — they’re lifelines.

If you’re the barricade, you’re the target.

Pause and Think

Task fixation is when a worker becomes so focused on one part of a job that they lose awareness of the bigger picture, surrounding hazards, or changing conditions. It often happens during routine, repetitive, or high-pressure tasks where the mind locks in too tightly on a single step. When task fixation sets in, situational awareness drops, and critical warning signs are easily missed.

- Where does task fixation hit hardest in rigging work?
- What stops people from setting barricades every time?
- How do YOU call out a missing barricade?