



January 14 — Broken Door Closer

When exiting the door I noticed that the door closure is broken off the door. This leaves the door at Mother Nature either slam the door closed or slam the door open with your hands in the line of fire.

Put placard on door letting others know about the situation until the door closure is repaired.

A door closer is a control device. When it's missing, the door becomes a moving hazard instead of a passive one. With wind, pressure changes, or someone entering from the other side, the door can move suddenly and with force. Hands, fingers, and shoulders end up in the line of fire simply because they're where people naturally push and pull.

**A door once calm now swings with might,
A closer gone turns calm to fright.
If doors move wild, don't take the chance,
Fix the control before the dance.**

This is one of those hazards that only shows up when conditions change and by then it's already moving.

Hazards

- Pinch or crush injuries to hands and fingers
- Struck-by injuries from sudden door movement
- Loss of balance when the door moves unexpectedly
- Damage to the door, frame, or hinges
- Secondary injuries if someone is hit or startled

Stats

- Line-of-fire incidents frequently involve **moving equipment or components**, not heavy machinery
- Pinch-point and caught-between injuries are among the most common hand injuries
- Many struck-by injuries occur during routine transitions like walking through doors or corridors
- Equipment condition failures are a major contributor to unexpected movement hazards

Words of Wisdom

- If something is meant to control motion, and it's gone — motion becomes the hazard.
- If it can move on its own, don't trust it.

Pause and Think

Doors are something people interact with automatically. We don't stop and evaluate them — we just use them. That's why when a control like a door closer fails, it creates a perfect trap: people expect predictable movement, but get unpredictable force instead. Recognizing when equipment has shifted from "normal" to "uncontrolled" is what prevents line-of-fire injuries.

- What equipment do we assume will move the same way every time?
- What changes when the control device is missing or broken?
- Who needs to be notified when a control failure is found?