



April 9 — Don't Cross It

<p>Contractor crossed our red tape without permission. Contractor was standing under suspended load.</p>	<p>Told contractor the issue and not to cross red tape.</p>
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A contractor crossed through red barricade tape and entered an active work zone beneath a suspended load.

The boundary was in place. The hazard was identified. But it was stepped over.

Nothing had fallen. Nothing had shifted. But the exposure was immediate.

When a load is suspended, gravity is already in play. The rigging is under tension, the load is off the ground, and any change even smallest can send that energy downward fast. And once it moves, there's no time to react.

The barricade was there to prevent that exact exposure.

Not to slow work down. Not to get in the way. But to keep people out of the line of fire.

This wasn't about not seeing the hazard. It was about choosing to move through it.

Hazards

- Struck-by from falling or shifting load
- Entering active lift zone
- Load swing or movement
- Crushing injuries
- Bypassing established controls
- Line of fire exposure to gravity energy

Stats

- Struck-by incidents are a leading cause of workplace fatalities
- Many incidents occur when workers enter restricted or controlled areas
- Barricades are one of the most effective administrative controls when respected
- Violating controlled zones removes layers of protection instantly

Words of Wisdom

- Barricades are boundaries not suggestions
- If you have to step over it, you shouldn't be there
- Going around is always faster than getting hurt

Pause and Think

When we see tapes or barricades often, it's easy to start treating them as routine something we've seen a hundred times. And when nothing bad has happened before, the urgency behind them fades.

That's when decisions change. "It'll be quick." "I'll just step through."

But the barricade wasn't placed for the last job. It was placed for the hazard that exists right now.

And once you step past it, you've chosen to take that risk.

- Do I ever step through or around barricades instead of following them?
- Do I fully understand why the barricade is there?
- Am I treating boundaries as optional when I'm in a hurry?
- Would I stop someone else from doing the same thing?