



January 13 — Barricade Bypass

<p>While working on catwalks above doorway a person came out the door while we were welding above. Asked him if he seen the danger tape and label on the inside of the door, he said yes - and I asked him why he walked through and didn't call the radio number on the label for permission, he said he was just walking through quickly.</p>	<p>I told him I understood but he still needed to ask permission, I didn't want him or anyone to get burned from welding slag and he did from them on for the day.</p>
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The controls were there but they were treated as optional. The tape, signage, and call-in process were meant to keep people out of the line of fire while hot work and overhead work were active. Once someone chooses to bypass that control, the hazard becomes a people problem instead of a process problem. Overhead hazards don't care how fast someone moves through them.

A tape on the door says “not right now,”
 But some folks think “quick” makes it allowed.
 Hot work above and sparks that fall,
 Don't care how fast you move at all.

Line-of-fire incidents don't need bad intentions. They only need one person to treat a boundary as a suggestion.

Hazards

- Struck-by injuries from falling tools, slag, or material
- Burns from hot work above
- Eye or face injuries from debris or sparks
- Serious injury or fatality from overhead hazards
- Secondary injuries to workers above who react suddenly

Stats

- Struck-by and line-of-fire hazards are among OSHA's leading causes of serious injuries
- A large portion of overhead incidents involve **unauthorized entry into barricaded areas**
- Many line-of-fire injuries occur during routine movement, not active work
- Barricades and signage only work when they are respected and enforced

Words of Wisdom

- A barricade only works if it stops people.
- “Just passing through” is how people get hurt.

Pause and Think

This wasn't a failure of controls — it was a failure of compliance. The tape, sign, and radio procedure were all in place. The problem was the belief that moving quickly made it safe enough. Overhead hazards don't adjust to human behavior. The risk stays the same whether someone walks slowly, quickly, or once.

- What does a barricade mean on our site?
- When is it acceptable to cross one?
- How do we respond when someone ignores a boundary?