

Construction Struck-By Hazards: Masonry Wall Construction*

Struck-by object is another leading cause of construction-related deaths. Approximately 75 percent of struck-by fatalities involve heavy equipment, such as trucks or cranes.

Safety and health programs must consider the many ways struck-by accidents can occur. These hazards cause the most struck-by injuries:

- Vehicles
- Falling/Flying Objects
- Masonry Wall Construction

Constructing concrete and masonry walls is especially dangerous because of the tremendous loads that need to be supported. There are risks of major accidents, and even death, when jacks or lifting equipment are used to position slabs and walls, or when shoring is required until structures can support themselves.



How to avoid masonry construction hazards:

- Don't place construction loads on a concrete structure until a qualified person indicates that the structure can support the load.
- Adequately shore or brace structures until permanent supporting elements are in place, or until concrete has been tested to ensure sufficient strength.
- Only allow those who are essential to, and actively engaged in construction or lifting operations, to enter the work area.
- Take measures to prevent unrolled wire mesh from recoiling, such as securing each end or turning the roll over.
- Don't load lifting devices beyond their capacity.
- Use automatic holding devices to support forms in case a lifting mechanism fails.

^{*} Source material taken from www.osha.gov.