

Working Around Mobile Equipment

Every year, workers are injured or killed when they are struck by mobile equipment such as mobile cranes, forklifts, excavators, and boom trucks. These accidents are called struck-by incidents. In ten years (2011-2020), more than 550 struck-by incidents occurred in BC workplaces. Your risk of being struck increases when working around mobile equipment because:

- You can't always see, hear, notice, or react to everything that's happening around you.
- Being focused on a work task can mean you are even less likely to notice what's around you (such as moving vehicles or equipment).

Identifying Risk Factors

Many factors can contribute to the risk of struck-by incidents. These factors fall into five categories:

1. Planning and proximity (situations where workers work around mobile equipment, traffic patterns, etc.).
2. Equipment (its condition, safety features, etc.).
3. Task (objectives, goals, work locations, timing, etc.).
4. Environment (site layout, noise, lighting, etc.).
5. People (communication, hearing, PPE, etc.).

Managing Risk

Employers can manage the risk of struck-by incidents by:

- Identifying the factors that contribute to the risk in the workplace.
- Assessing the factors to determine the risk to workers.
- Controlling the factors to reduce the risk.

The most effective way to reduce the risk is to eliminate or



reduce interactions between workers and mobile equipment. This involves changes such as:

- Eliminating the use of mobile equipment where possible.
- Using guardrails or barriers to separate mobile equipment from workers on foot.
- Setting up a limited-access zone or swing radius around mobile equipment.
- Installing sensors to stop mobile equipment when workers on foot are nearby.

Other potential controls include:

- Using trained and qualified spotters.
- Providing mobile equipment hazard awareness and training to workers.
- Providing a good lighting system in the working area.

For more information, see the WorkSafeBC publication [Reducing the Risk of Workers Being Struck by Vehicles or Mobile Equipment](#).

OHS Regulation References: Sections [4.33](#), [8.24](#), [8.25](#), [16.6](#); Part 18.

Project: Address:

Employer: Supervisor:

Date: Time: Shift:

Number in crew: Number attending:

Other safety concerns or suggestions:

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Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
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15.		

Manager's remarks:

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Manager: Supervisor:

(Signature)

(Signature)

For more information on health and safety requirements for crane operations in B.C., refer to the *Workers Compensation Act* and the OHS Regulation at worksafebc.com.