Conveyor Belts

Unnecessary workplace accidents can occur when employees do not think before they act, or avoid taking precautions to prevent accidents. Keeping safety at the top of your mind is especially important when working with potentially dangerous machinery like conveyor belts.

Before you start a Conveyor:

- Inspect the area to ensure that no one is performing maintenance, no one is under the conveyor, and no one is within the fall zone.
- Make sure all guards are fitted and that the emergency stop switch is working properly.

When working at or near a Conveyor:

- Wear a hat and safety shoes. Avoid wearing loose-fitting clothing or jewellery, and make sure that your hair is short or pulled back.
- Do not walk under a moving conveyor.
- Never clean belts, pulleys or drums while the machine is on.
- Do not perform maintenance or repairs while the conveyor is in motion.

When Working at a Powered Conveyor:

- Ensure that you can see the system while you are operating the controls.
- Follow all lock-off/isolation procedures before performing maintenance.
- Position yourself so that you will not be hit by moving objects.

When working with an Aerial Conveyor:

- Make sure that machine guards are in place to protect against objects falling on workers below.

General Safety Recommendations:

- Always know the location of start and stop controls.
- Never step, climb, sit or ride on a conveyor belt.
- Never alter or remove machine guards.
- Never overload a conveyor outside of its design limits.
- Always report unsafe practices to your supervisor.

Conveyor belts make our jobs easier, but must be used in a safe manner. If you have any questions or concerns about conveyor belt safety or operation, contact your line manager.

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