



BEST PRACTICE OF THE MONTH

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EMPIRE-CAT

KNOW THE RISK CHECK YOUR 6

Empire Southwest is a Caterpillar heavy equipment dealer with more than 20 locations and 2,000+ employees in Arizona and Southeastern California. The foundation for business is built on their values of **SAFETY, RESPECT, INTEGRITY, TEAMWORK, EXCELLENCE, STEWARDSHIP, and ASTONISHMENT.**

"SAFETY FIRST" is more than a slogan. It is a personal commitment to preventing unsafe conditions of any kind, and a pledge to get everyone safely home every day.

Best Practice:

Empire's Safety Department identified 6 Fatal Risks that could affect employees. Before starting any work, employees complete a job hazard analysis (JHA) and daily risk assessment walk (DRAW) to identify any risk in their area.

Empire's goal is to empower employees to recognize and manage risk in their work areas.

The poster to the right visually demonstrates the best practice associated with each fatal risk. In addition to these posters displayed across Empire, Instructor Led and Web Based Training is conducted.

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FATAL RISK	WHAT IS IT?	BEST PRACTICES
 STORED ENERGY	Residual or build-up of energy within a component.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow LOTO Verify affected systems are shut off Disconnect battery power when machines don't have master switches Release residual pressures Block mechanical parts against movement
 WORKING AT HEIGHTS	Working at a height where the danger of falling exists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminate risk when possible by bringing work to ground level Use equipment with hand rails, portable platforms/ stairways or secure ladders Never stand on top rung of a ladder Maintain three points of contact when climbing Practice good housekeeping around ladders and equipment where personnel work at heights
 CRANES/LIFTING ACTIVITIES	Exposure to loss of control of a suspended load.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All cranes and lifting equipment must be inspected before each use Never work under a suspended load Operators must remain in control of suspended loads Weights of lifted objects must always be known Use tag lines for awkward loads where spinning or shifting can become a hazard
 MOBILE EQUIPMENT INTERACTIONS	Collisions with a fixed/moving object or person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obey speed limits and other driving safety rules Understand machine limits and center of gravity Ensure visibility of both machine and pedestrians Wear all required PPE such as seat belts Understand right-of-way rules
 BLOCKING/CRIBBING	Contact with machinery or moving parts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always know the weight of object/component as accurately as possible Ensure cribbing or stand placement is adequate Use blocks of the same size/shape and material Make sure to crib unbalanced objects to prevent movement Secure protruding objects with cones or caution tape
 WORKING ALONE	Working in a situation or location when assistance is not readily available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess all hazards and have a plan for each Plan a method of contact if a situation arises Keep Blockline safety device on person at all times Ensure a supervisor is aware of working alone status

