

Health & Safety Alert

Nature: <input type="checkbox"/> Fatality No injury Equip. Damage Accident <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Near Miss	Personnel: ArcelorMittal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> Other	Date: June 21, 2010
		Hour: 3:15PM CST

Arcelor facility:	Sector:	Sub sector:	Country:
ArcelorMittal LCNA Indiana Harbor Long Carbon	LCA/LCNA	No. 1 EAF Steel Producing Shop	USA
Activity:	Steel Producing		
CEO :	P. S. Venkat		

Contractor:	Activity
Contractor Iron Workers	Erection of Scrubber Structure

Nature of the accident/incident	Key words
Fallen Hand tools.	Personal Protective Equipment Save/Tiered Work Activities

Preliminary Report - Subject to change upon further investigation

Description:

Two contractor ironworkers were setting the upper section of a structural steel tower for the SO2 Scrubber installation project. Having set the section in place, one employee left the immediate structure area, and boarded the aerial lift so that he could access the very upper structure of the tower section in order to release the rigging from the mobile crane used to set the tower. The other employee (about 30 feet below) continued to tighten bolts of the upper section to the already established lower section, using an impact wrench.

As the co-worker was maneuvering the basket of the aerial lift, and properly tied off, his safety lanyard got caught on his tools (attached to his tool belt) and flipped the slever bar sideways in its sheath – causing the bar to flip out and fall. The bar fell and struck the hard hat of the employee below – piercing through the hard hat as depicted in the attached photo. The hard hat fell off the employee, and fell an additional distance to the ground below. The employee was not injured.

At the time of the incident a ground person was assigned as a dedicated safety watch to make sure no one entered the work area as the two employees were positioning and attaching the tower section. Additionally, the area had been barricaded with a danger tape.

Immediate and near term corrective actions:

(Contractor Firm)

1. An immediate safety stand down with the crew to discuss the incident and implement a number of the corrective actions listed.
2. Vendors who manufacture slever bar holders and other such tool holders will be contacted to discuss design changes to prevent tools from being dislodged from holders.
3. Only tools essential to complete assigned tasks will be carried in tool belts.
4. Given the potential for slever bars, spud wrenches, etc to become dislodged from their holders, if any unprotected overhead work requires use of such tools, employees will not be present below unless a protective deck or safety net system is installed.

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5. All employees have been instructed on the importance of full communications and heightened safety awareness when working in areas where overhead fall object hazards exist.
6. Met with ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor Long Carbon Health and Safety Department to discuss the incident and get input for corrective actions and a joint effort to address this safety concern among contractors and company employee activities.

(ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor Long Carbon)

1. Communicate an initial Tool Box Safety Discussion for all its employees on the importance of PPR – hard hats in particular.
2. Communicate an expanded Tool Box Safety Discussion to the same employees relative to PPE, tiered work, and potential for dropping tools – whether it be from tool holders, other structures such as EOT Cranes, Aerial lifts, etc., - with a strong reminder that all loose tools must be managed and secured properly.
3. Communicate this event and corrective actions to other contractor firms supporting ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor Long Carbon.
4. Seek feedback via this communication from other business units across ArcelorMittal operations relative to best practices.

Photograph:



Submitted by: Harold S. Junker
June 25, 2010



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Contribution Factors:

Actions:

Contact person for further information			
Name:		E-mail:	
Phone:		Fax:	