



**SAFETY  
IS A  
VALUE!**

## Stakeholders Best Practices Toolbox Safety Meeting Series

### "SUSPENDED LOADS"

The law of gravity cannot be amended or suspended. However what goes up needn't come down, at least not on top of anyone. When lifting loads by way of a hoist, crane, or even a set of come-a-longs, keep these thoughts in mind:

#### BEST PRACTICES

- Stay out from under suspended loads!
- Warn others by roping off or using caution tape around the area under the suspended load.
- Use only properly sized and inspected chains, cables, slings, hooks, etc. (Consult the manufacturer's load recommendations, readily available from the manufacturer or on the Internet)
- Ensure the lifting device (crane, hoist, come-a-long, etc.) is adequate for the load.
- Rig all loads to be lifted properly.
- If using load guide lines, ensure they are long enough to allow the handler to stay out from under the suspended load.



**Note:** From 1997 through 2002, there were 1490 accidents involving cranes, hoists, overhead gantries, forklifts, etc. resulting in 18 fatalities. Half of the fatalities were caused by the victim being struck by a falling object.

Developed in cooperation with:

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