

Conveyor Safety Tips for Mechanics



Best Practice Series BP-49

Accidents involving conveyors have caused many deaths and injuries in recent years. Mechanics are often exposed to conveyor hazards. You can help yourself work more safely by watching for these hazards while working on or around conveyors.



Conveyors can grab you
... don't get caught up.

Working Smart

- **Lock out** the conveyor power switch and tag it before working on that conveyor.
- **Align the belt** from a safe place and only after you're sure the conveyor can't grab you.
- **Return idlers look safe, but they can hurt you.** Never try to fix or adjust them while the conveyor is running.

- **Stay clear of suspended loads** when in-stalling or repairing a conveyor.
- Conveyor **stop cords** are for your safety. Check them periodically to make sure they actually work.
- **Use a harness or safety belt and line** when working where there is a danger of falling from a conveyor.

Safe Maintenance

- If the belt is in motion, **do not manually apply belt dressing**. Only pressurized dressings can be applied while the conveyor is running.
- **Put the guard back in place** when you have finished working on the machine.
- **Do not try to dislodge rocks** from pulleys while the conveyor is running.
- **Block conveyors against hazardous** motion before repairing or performing maintenance on the machine.

Arrive Home Alive

U.S. Department of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration

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