



TOOLBOX TALK: 20-20-20: BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

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A qualified employee entered a boom lift and began a task approximately 25 feet from the ground level. The task was routine and required the employee to relocate the equipment throughout the day. After approximately 45 minutes into task, the employee attempted to relocate the equipment and accidentally struck a ladder that someone had laid on the floor in the area behind the lift.

1. There were not any injuries
2. The ladder was tagged “out of service” and removed from the project
3. And a stand down was held with all employees implementing a site-specific policy that a ground spotter was required before any equipment was to be relocated.

At another project location, there are over 30 of these type lifts running and the project is working 7 days a week 10 hours a day. But the project has not had a single incident involving a piece of equipment. The site-specific policy they have implemented and continue to remind everyone of each single day is what they call the 20-20-20 rule:

1. Every 20 Minutes
2. Take 20 seconds
3. And look 20 feet around your entire work area to insure you are aware of what is going on in your surroundings at all times.