

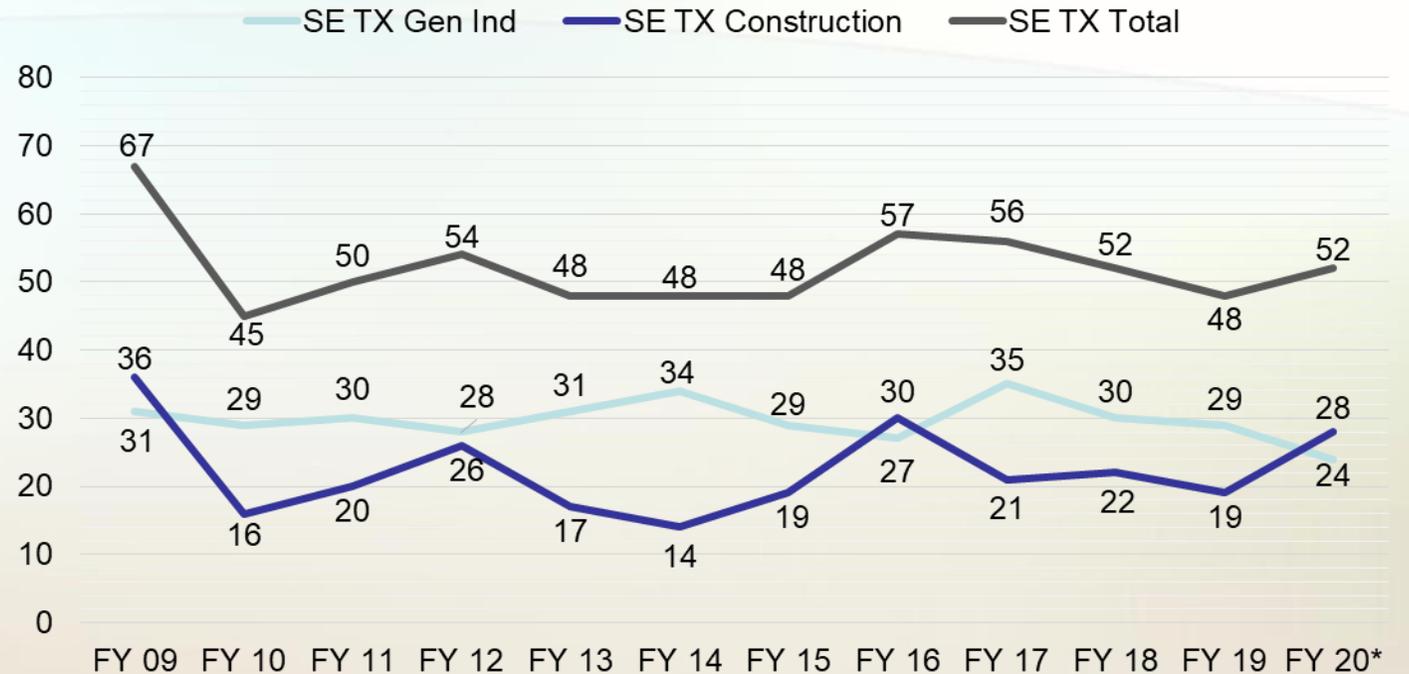
OSHA Update SE Texas

Jim Shelton, CAS
Houston North Area Office

SE TX Fatal Incidents by Fiscal Year

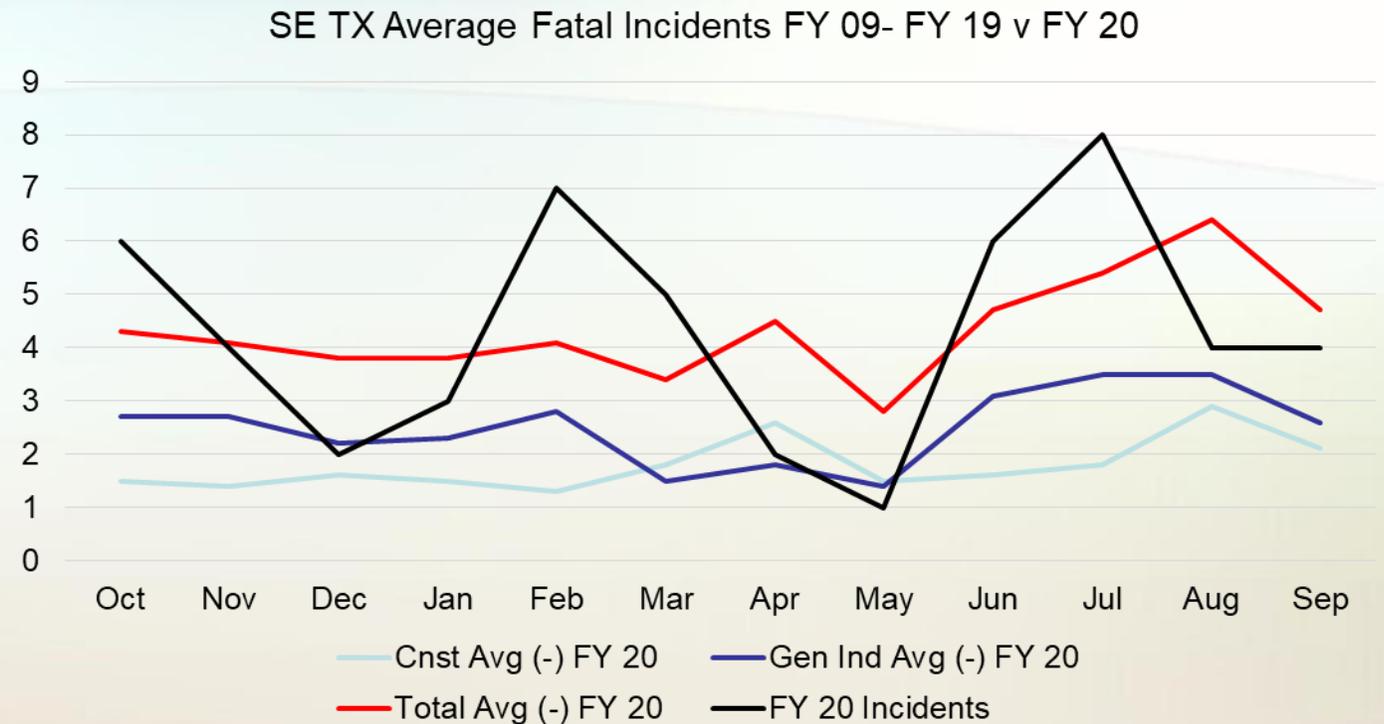
- Doesn't include:
 - WPV
 - Suicides
 - Sole Proprietors
 - Vehicles Incidents
 - Non 'work related' cases
 - Covid-19
 - Any entity not covered under OSHA jurisdiction

FY 20* SE TX Fatality Incidents by Gen Industry and Construction



SE TX Fatal Incidents by Month

- There can be wide variations on incidents by month
- An increase in incidents in the summer is fairly consistent, even when you subtract heat related incidents



FY 20 SE TX Fatal Incidents by Age

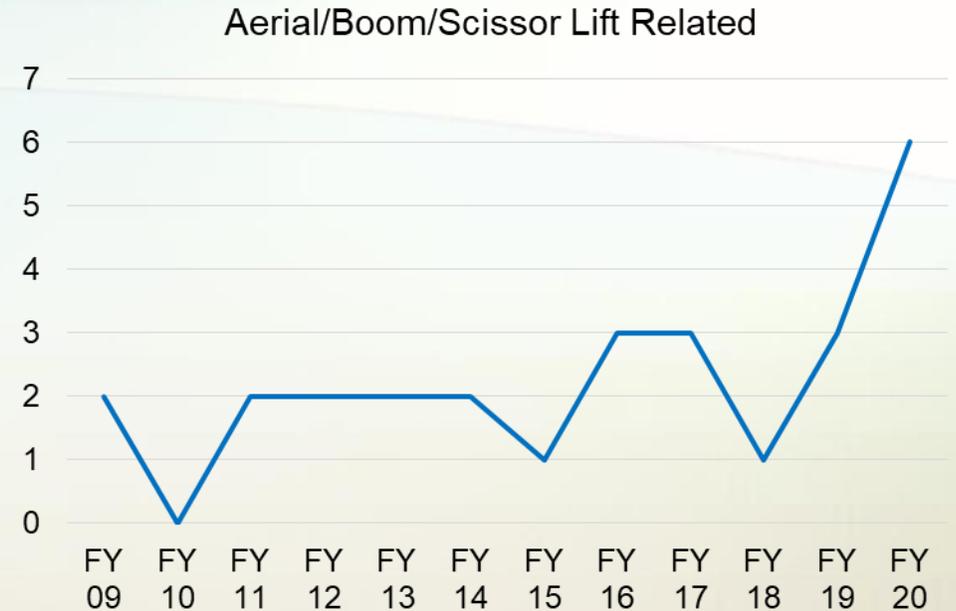
- Average age of the construction worker 45.3
- Mean age of the construction worker 43.5
- Average age of the general industry worker 46.6
- Mean age of the general industry worker 44.0



FY 20 SE TX Fatal Incidents

- Aerial/Boom/Scissor Lift Related

- Bigger issue in FY 20
- Prior to FY 15 they were mostly fall related
- Since FY 16 falls have declined while OH powerline contact has grown
 - In FY 19 and FY 20 OH powerlines were 5/9 incidents. Two were caught between and two were falls

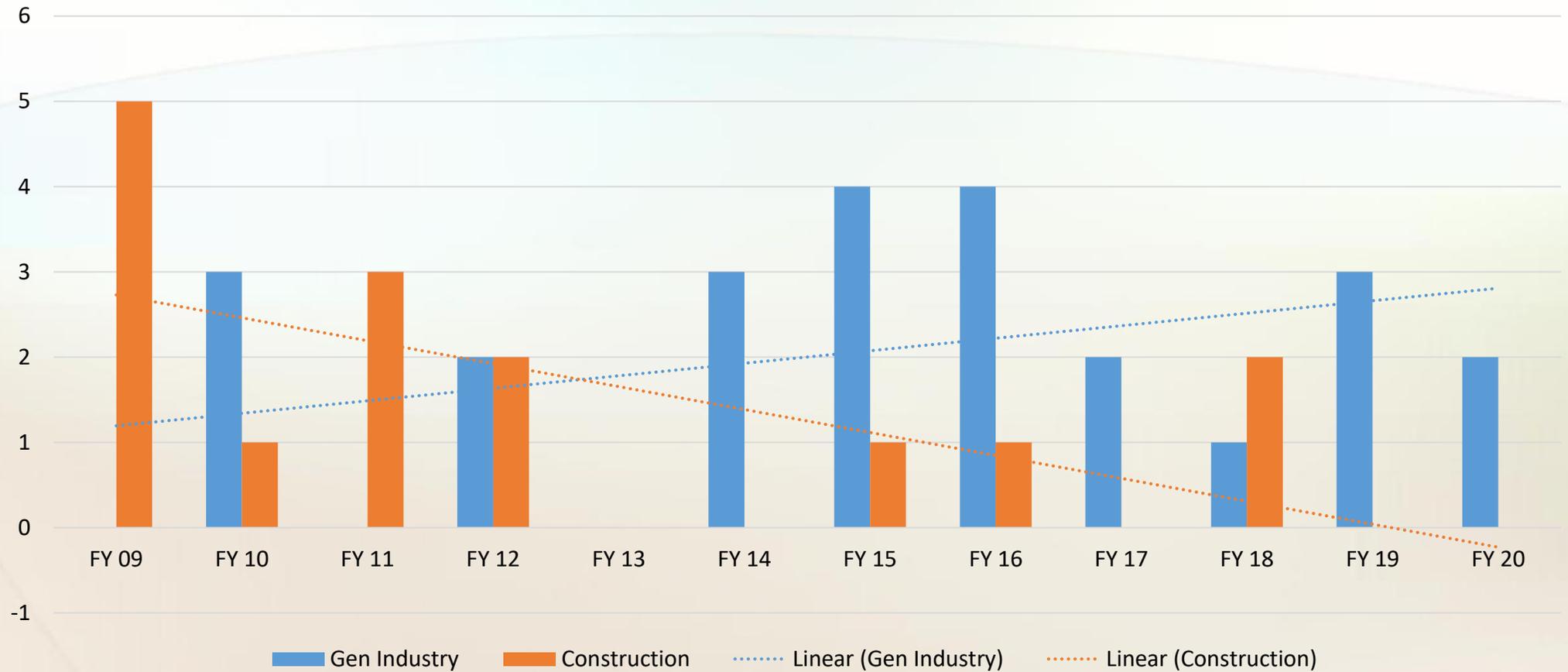


Utilities vs. Construction

- A couple things that need a closer look
 - More incidents seem to be related to 'utilities' than the typical commercial 'construction'
 - Could it be related to the growth of the Houston area?
 - Could it be related to the types of contractors used?
 - Events in 'confined' areas including working at 'elevation' where there's limitations on space and movement
 - Possibly related could be the confined areas and the congestion associated with utilities



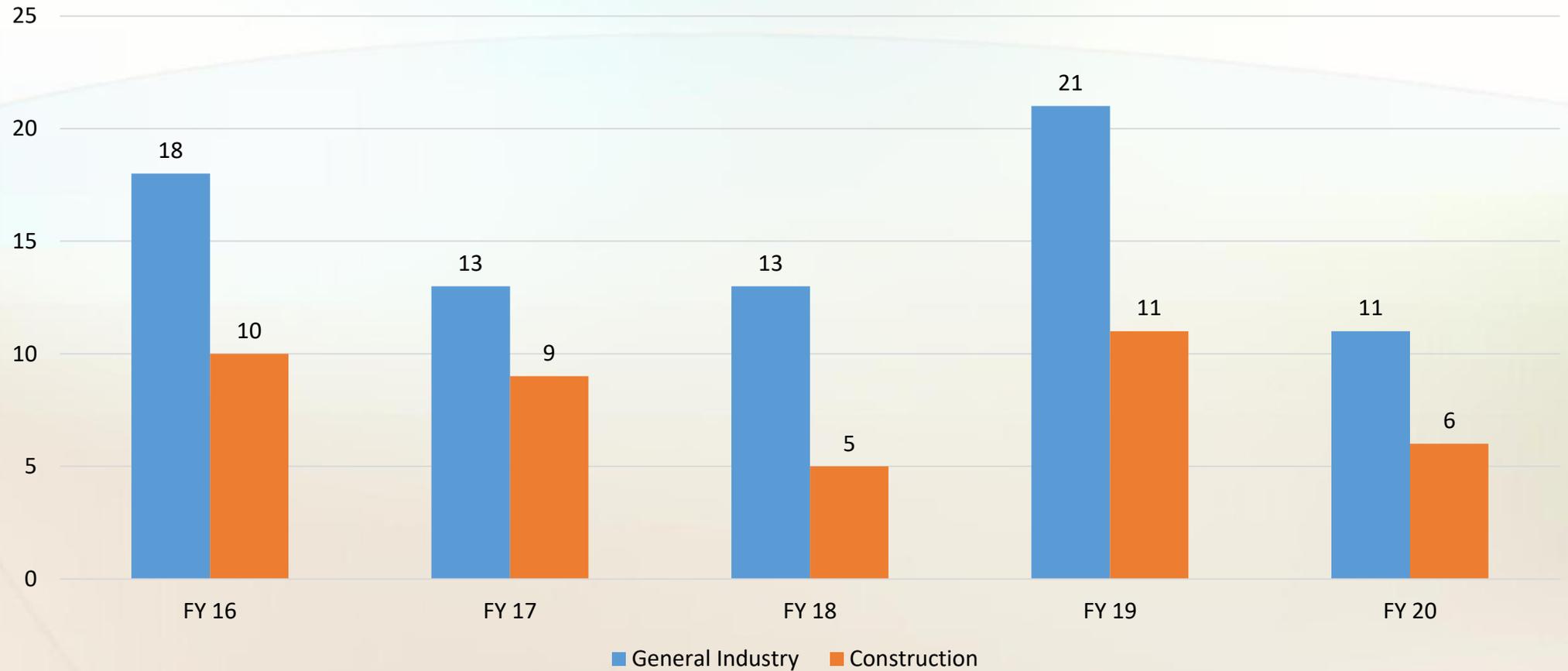
FY 20 SE TX Crane Fatal Incidents



FY 20 SE TX Crane Fatal Incidents

- Driver was transporting a trailer to the loading dock. The trailer was supposed to be lifted and put on a cargo ship. A crane lifted the trailer that was still attached to the chassis with the driver still inside. He was lifted up about 50' and fell out of the cab to the ground below and died at the site
- Employee was adjusting the single and double line brakes of an overhead gantry crane while standing on the trolley platform of the crane. He told the crane operator to test the brakes after he adjusted them. As the crane operator tested the brakes, the trolley platform moved and caused him to be hit on the left side by a metal ceiling beam of the building. He fell into the rotating single and double line brake drums that the hoisting ropes wrap around and was crushed in between the rotating drums

SE TX Crane SIR Incidents



FY 20 SE TX Crane Construction SIRs

- Employees were removing 16' segments of temporary wood stairs from a construction building. The stairs were inside a 5' x 5' opening going floor to floor. They had removed the 1st to 14th floor. After removing the segment to the 15th floor, one of the employees went onto the stairs to remove the crane hook. While he was on the stairs, the crane operator moved the hook up and it caught the stair. It caused the stair and the employee to fall through the opening from the 14th floor to the 12th floor
- Employee was guiding a steel stair suspended from a crane into place to be connected with bolts. He was assisted by a flagger. He was positioning it in place using his sleever bar to guide and make sure the stair riser cleared the opening in the steel. The top stair riser hung up on the support beam and he pushed the stair riser with his foot. A clip angle on stair caught his pant leg and the stair swung back and caught his leg between the stair and the steel support beam fracturing his right leg above the ankle

FY 20 SE TX Crane Construction SIRs

- Two employees were working inside a man basket suspended by a tower crane. They were erecting a suspended scaffold for a hydrocarbon unit. At some point during the process, a malfunction occurred and the man basket descended to the ground from about 10'. The basket did not strike the ground but one of the employees fell out of the basket and was hanging off the side
- Employee was on the ground as a signal person. They were using a 75 ton crane to lift a 12' long, 4' diameter, 500 lb tube. The rigging slipped because it started raining and the tube fell, bouncing off a 2nd story beam, and hit him. He suffered a broken bone to his foot and three cracked ribs

FY 20 SE TX Crane Construction SIRs

- Employee was standing between two concrete forms. One of the forms was lifted and during the lift, it shifted and struck his leg injuring the ankle and knee
- Employee was attempting to lift 15' steel products using a chain sling and an overhead crane. His left thumb was pinched between two chain pieces when he started the lift. His thumb was lacerated and fractured

FY 20 SE TX Crane Gen Industry SIRs

- Employee was working to fit two 1-1/2" stainless steel spool pieces together at a flanged connection to bolt up. To align the two spool pieces, the top 10' section of pipe was rigged using a nylon strap choker, attached to a 1/2 ton chain. As he attempted to move the pipe, the load shifted in the nylon strap causing the top section of the pipe to drop approximately 1-2" pinching his left index finger in the flanged connection. He suffered a distal tip amputation
- Employee was preparing to raise a steel frame using an overhead crane and chain sling. The tip of the crane hook was being used in an attempt to raise the frame to position the chain sling for rigging. After the frame was raised 6-12" from the floor, he reached beneath to position the chain and the frame fell. He suffered an amputation to the middle, ring, and pinky fingers on the left hand

FY 20 SE TX Crane Gen Industry SIRs

- Employee was working inside a rail car rigging bundles of steel rebar for hoisting. While making a partial break out lift (hoisting approximately 2' to gain access for slinging), a nylon strap parted under the load. It fell back into the car, striking him. The process involved lifted the end of a load which is 8 bundles (1100-2200 lbs approx. weight), and using a bent section of rebar called a chicken catcher to reach under and hook the loop of the lifting strap being passed from the other side. The strap holding up the end parted and the load fell against him fracturing his femur and collarbone
- Temporary employee was bundling pipe using a 5 ton overhead crane. As he operated the crane to lift the pipe from a table, the chain sling was not spaced evenly and the pipe was lifted off center. After realizing this, he immediately lowered the bundle and as he did, he placed his left hand on the pipe to try to level and balance the load. The hand was positioned behind the chain sling and the chain sling slipped trapping his left hand injuring it

FY 20 SE TX Crane Gen Industry SIRs

- Employee was working inside of a cargo vessel breaking out loose pipe. He was standing adjacent to a partially-lifted load of mixed length pipe, preparing to pull slings from beneath the load supported by the vessel's crane. One 20' piece of pipe stowed on top of 40' pipe was not engaged by the slings and when partially lifted, it rolled from the bundle and onto his ankle causing multiple fractures to the left ankle
- Employee was operating an overhead crane to lift a metal basket that is used to move tubulars. He was hit by the basket as it swung off a stand. It struck his right upper thigh cutting him and knocking him to the ground. He suffered a deep cut to the bone and bruised bone which required surgery to close

FY 20 SE TX Crane Gen Industry SIRs

- Employee was handling master coils of sheet metal using an overhead crane and a C-hook. He was guiding the C-hook into the material using his hand on the back side of the C-hook and struck another master coil. His finger was caught in between the C-hook and a master coil partially amputating the right distal pinky finger
- Employee was loading up a stall on an exterior crane to a building. His finger was caught between pieces of steel and he sustained a fracture of his little left finger and laceration of tendons on the left ring and left little finger
- Employee had fingers on his left hand caught in a pinch point while lifting cargo resulting in laceration and dislocation

FY 20 SE TX Crane Gen Industry SIRs

- An employee was assembling a crane when his finger was cut and bruised while attempting to align the pennant on the boom
- Employee was clipping bands on cables. The process involved partially hoisting the cables with a crane. During the hoist, his hand became pinched between the cables and a steel pin partially amputating the left thumb

Questions?

- Houston North Area Office
Joann Figueroa, Area Director

Jim Shelton, CAS

690 S. Loop 336 W., Suite 400

Conroe, TX 77304

shelton.james@dol.gov



Disclaimer

- This information has been developed by an OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist and is intended to assist employers, workers, and others as they strive to improve workplace health and safety. While we attempt to thoroughly address specific topics **[or hazards]**, it is not possible to include discussion of everything necessary to ensure a healthy and safe working environment in a presentation of this nature. Thus, this information must be understood as a tool for addressing workplace hazards, rather than an exhaustive statement of an employer's legal obligations, which are defined by statute, regulations, and standards. Likewise, to the extent that this information references practices or procedures that may enhance health or safety, but which are not required by a statute, regulation, or standard, it cannot, and does not, create additional legal obligations. Finally, over time, OSHA may modify rules and interpretations in light of new technology, information, or circumstances; to keep apprised of such developments, or to review information on a wide range of occupational safety and health topics, you can visit OSHA's website at www.osha.gov.