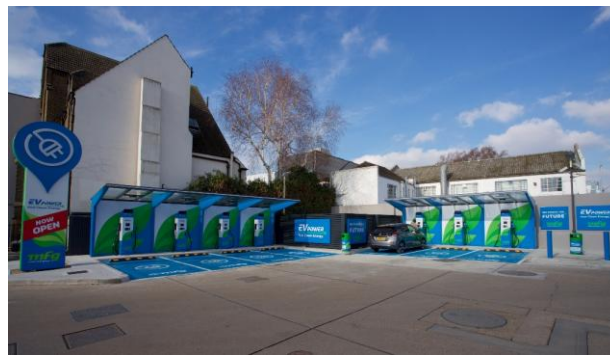


# LIFE SAVING RULES

07

LINE OF FIRE



## Line of fire injuries occur when:

- The path of a moving object or release of hazardous energy is in-line with an individual's body, or a specific part of the individual's body; and
- The individual is impacted (hit) by the object or hazardous energy

## The three major categories of line of fire incidents are:

- Caught-in or between
- Struck by; and
- Released energy

## Life Saving Rule:

- To avoid line of fire incidents **YOU MUST:**
  - Position yourself away from a potential exposure to:
    - Rotating equipment or suspended loads
    - Moving objects, including vehicles and mobile equipment
    - The release or potential release of high pressure; and
    - Dropped objects
  - Establish and obey barriers and exclusion zones
  - Secure loose objects
  - Report potential dropped objects; and
  - Wear appropriate PPE (e.g., hi-vis jacket, gloves, etc.)



## What is line of fire?

- A simple definition is 'being in harm's way'
- Line of fire injuries occur when the path of a moving object, or the release of hazardous energy, is in line with an individual's body

## Statistically about 80% of workplace incidents result from human behavior:

- Behaviors that lead to line of fire incidents include:
  - **Complacency**; Had completed the tasks many times before and had never been injured
  - **Fatigue**; Tiredness leading to poor judgement
  - **Frustration**; Irritated or annoyed leading to loss of focus
  - **Rushing**; Taking a shortcut to complete a task quickly

## Where possible hazards should be eliminated, but if that is not possible, hazards must be controlled:

- Ask yourself the following questions:
  - Where could my body be positioned in relation to the hazard?
  - What is the worst-case scenario of my actions?
  - How can I protect myself from the hazard?

## Best practice for reducing line of fire hazards includes:

- Be aware of the hazards around you
- Understand the machines and operations in your work area

- Take time to think about the consequences that could result from what you are about to do
- Organise the work area to provide unobstructed and easy access to equipment
- Use barriers to restrict access into potentially hazardous areas
- Keep pathways clear
- Eliminate possible pinch points, ensure guards are in place; and
- Use the correct tool(s) for the job

