



# Toolbox Talk

## Topic: Crushpoints

Crushpoints (or pinchpoints) are places where two points meet – and your hands and body could get caught. Hand and power tools are a main source of crushpoint hazards. On a daily basis, one can find our craftsmen using drills, shears, plate benders and a host of other tools. In fact, we use them so much that we become risk tolerant to the crush point hazards created by these tools of the trade. We need to view our use of this equipment with fresh eyes, focusing on the crush points presented by the tools we use every day.

**Crushpoints include:** striking your hand with a hammer, crushing your foot with a hydraulic lift gate, and being caught in between unsecured equipment and a stationary object.

Discuss with your crew: What crushpoints are we exposed to on the job?

Some examples can include:

Trailer hitches	Moving forklifts in a shop	Setting steel
Chiseling	Wrenching in tight areas	Fingers caught by rotating machinery
Unsecured pipe rolling	Loose clothing caught on moving parts	

To avoid crushpoints near equipment, ask yourself these questions:

- Is the handle for the tool I'm using in place and does it afford me a stable, secure grip?
- What obstructions in the area present a crushpoint hazard, specifically with the task I'm performing?
- Does the tool I'm using present a natural crushpoint hazard?
- How can I keep my hands and body away from crushpoint hazards today?
- Am I trained to use this piece of equipment, tool, or how to complete this process?
- Did I de-energize this tool before working on it?
- Do I have the right tool for the job?



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**Date:**

**Presented by:**

**Organization/Department Name**

Attendee Printed Name	Signature

**Comments:**