

# MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

**Ask Yourself**  
*"Could it happen here?"*

## DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

### **Overhead Lifting Devices: Side-Pulling**

Side-pulling occurs when attempting to lift any load that is not located directly under the hoist's hook.

Another method of side-pulling is when a crane operator attempts to use the bridge or trolley drives to apply force to move an object horizontally when the load is not first fully suspended on the hoist.

### **Potential Hazards:**

- Damage to the equipment causing failed components to come off the crane, leading to serious potential for injury.
- Release of energy when the load is "freed" causing harm to persons nearby and damage to other equipment.
- Costly repairs to Overhead Crane and possible long-term downtime.
- Workers associate the load being directly below the hoist, leading the worker to not realize the danger they could be walking into.



## SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Crane should always be centered over the load.
- Flag area around the crane.
- Look Up! Confirm where the crane is in relation to the load.
- Consult manufacturer manual on "side-pull safe options" for the crane and hoist.
- Clear communication between the operators and the riggers.
- Consult employer's "Lifting and Rigging" Policy
- Stop and Think! Ask yourself  
**"Why do I need to side pull the crane?"**  
**"Is there a better method?"**

## IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

- Crane should always be centered over the load.
- Look UP, confirm where the crane is in relation to the load.
- Consult manufacturer manual on "side-pull safe options" for the crane and hoist

