

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
"Could it happen here?"

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Fall - Medical Treatment

While operators were working on the bagging station platform in the finishing area, a bundle without a bag advanced toward the strapper zone. Before it passed the bagging platform, the operators manually stopped it to place a bag on it.

As one operator moved around the bundle, they lost their footing and fell off the platform grating to the concrete floor, three feet below. The operator sustained a dislocated shoulder.



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- **Conduct Hazard Assessments for New Installations:** Before using newly installed or retrofitted equipment or structures, conduct a formal hazard assessment to help identify potential hazards or "traps," determine risk factors, and establish who might be affected and how. The assessment will help verify the most effective control measures to eliminate or reduce risks to workers.
- **Ensure Comprehensive Training for New and Young Workers:** Provide thorough training to new and young workers to ensure they have the necessary knowledge and skills to perform their tasks safely and confidently.
- **Discourage Shortcuts:** Reinforce the risks associated with taking shortcuts. Emphasize how these actions can compromise personal safety and the safety of others.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Recognizing and understanding risk is crucial to maintaining a safe work environment. By proactively taking steps to identify potential hazards, you can significantly reduce the chance of accidents and help prevent injuries.

Effective risk assessment can prioritize safety initiatives, effectively allocate resources and implement targeted control measures to minimize the likelihood of harm and lessen its potential impact.

