

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Overhead Powerline Incident

A contractor struck a live overhead powerline while operating an extended-reach forklift. They were moving 30-foot pieces of rebar when the backstop made contact with the powerline.

The line was pulled tight, causing a nearby power pole to snap at the base. The pole fell onto the roof of the administrative offices.

Fortunately, the incident occurred on a Saturday, the administrative building was empty and only a few people were on site. No one was injured.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Always complete a Field Level Hazard Assessment to identify and document hazards before starting work. Where possible, mitigate those hazards before beginning work.
- Follow your SWPs and use a spotter when working in congested or higher-risk areas.



MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Always take the time to pause and make sure you're working safely. Safety must always come before production.