



Operational Alerts inform Signal Mutual Members of serious incidents within the Mutual that resulted in permanent disability, death, or a significant near miss. If you have similar operations, please share this Operational Alert and have a safety discussion with operation managers, supervisors, equipment operators, and all affected employees. It is imperative that management review their operational controls at all levels to mitigate similar hazardous conditions and/or acts.

INCIDENT: FALLS NOT FALLING

SUMMARY OF RECENT INCIDENTS

Since the beginning of 2022, the Mutual has experienced 10 fall injuries resulting in severe injury.

- A welder fell off of a beam onto a barge and fractured their right heel.
- The Header was climbing down the forward stanchion and misjudged how close he was to the deck. He stepped off too early and fell resulting in a fractured right arm and injured back.
- A laborer slipped while climbing staging, fell 10' landing on left elbow and back.
- A welder was tracing leads for welding and stepped beyond a "Do Not Enter" marked barrier and fell 30 feet through a plastic containment. They sustained multiple injuries and were hospitalized.
- An operator was descending a railcar and fell four feet to the ground. They Sustained a dislocated/fractured left elbow.
- A Quality Control inspector fell seven feet into a deck opening while performing an inspection.
- A tank barge manager fell overboard from a vessel resulting in facial and rib injuries.
- A longshoreman, working as a winch operator, was rigging a forklift to be hoisted up onto the vessel when they lost their footing and fell off the forklift, 5 feet to the ground resulting in surgical repair of the right leg.
- A welder was on a ladder in a barge and attempted to catch their falling hardhat resulting in a ten-foot fall and fracturing their left leg.
- Temporary service electrician was working on some service racks that were on the edge of the pier. The worker tripped on a cable and fell to the side onto the narrow strip of the pier and then fell into the water. Injuring lower back, left wrist.



These injuries cross the breadth of occupations and maritime businesses covered by the Mutual. The question is what is driving these incidents at such a high rate of frequency?

Also of significance, Mutual has started the new year with high rates of fall injuries for the last three years in a row. A real focus on mitigating these hazards must be undertaken. Please review the information below and **Operationalize** (communicate and engage) this message to your workers.



SIGNAL[®] OPERATIONAL ALERT

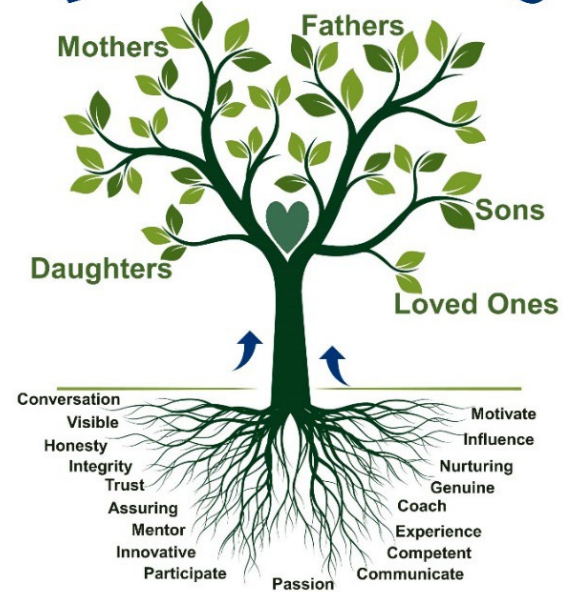


CONSIDERATIONS

Operational Task Reviews should be completed together by team leads and employees, reviewing as part of JSA and individual tasks:

- Evaluate work areas together for fall hazards. Act immediately on any identified risk!
- If employees are assigned tasks requiring working at or near unguarded edges the edges **MUST** be secured with a railing or a **Personal Fall Arrest System (PFAS)** gear with a designated anchor point must be used.
- Self-check and peer-check adequate railing and necessary PFAS.
- All holes that present fall potential **MUST** be covered and/or guarded. Review work area continuously for hazards.
- Clear ice from equipment that will be accessed by workers.
- Ensure workers are reminded to maintain three points of contact while climbing.
- All employees must know their **STOP WORK RESPONSIBILITY** and **AUTHORITY** when there is operational uncertainty.

Why WE Care



Safety. Live It. Share It.



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