

Aerial Lift Safety

CASF's Safety Committee recently held a session to discuss aerial lift safety. Dick Wallace, Aerial Specialist from Sunbelt Rentals reviewed numerous aerial safety topics with the group. Mr. Wallace referenced the AWP Safety Guidelines ANSI A92 Standards for the meeting. The session included detailed information on, Straight Boom Lifts, Articulating Boom Lifts and Scissor Lifts.

Do you know what the real costs of an accident are?

For every \$1 spent on insured costs, \$6 - \$50 is spent on uninsured costs such as: property damage, equipment damage, job delays, overtime, hiring, training, litigation and OSHA fines.

Five of the Most Serious Aerial Lift Accidents:

1. Tip over
2. Caught between
3. Ejection/fall
4. Electrocuting
5. Struck by object/machine

Aerial Equipment Inspection

Before each day or at the beginning of each shift, the aerial platform should be given a visual inspection and functional test including:

- ♦ Operating and emergency controls
- ♦ Safety devices
- ♦ Personal protective devices

- ♦ Air, hydraulic and fuel system leaks
- ♦ Cables and wiring harnesses
- ♦ Loose or missing parts
- ♦ Tires and wheels
- ♦ Placards, warnings, control markings and operating manuals
- ♦ Outriggers, stabilizers and other structures
- ♦ Guardrail system
- ♦ Items specified by the manufacturer

If any items are found to be not working properly, be sure to take the key out of the machine and "Red Tag" the machine as down and not to be operated until repaired.

Workplace Inspection

The user and operator should:

- ♦ Watch out for drop-offs or holes
- ♦ Watch out for overhead obstructions
- ♦ Watch out for bumps and floor obstructions (NOTE: A change in elevation of only 3 inches on the ground - can mean a difference of 3 to 5 feet when 40 to 80 feet up in the air)
- ♦ If 5 degree warning alarm sounds, return immediately to level surface
- ♦ Be aware of hazardous locations and weather conditions
- ♦ Look around for the presence of unauthorized individuals and always keep the area below clear of people

Member News

The Marker Group LLC is pleased to announce the grand opening of their newly built state of the art Florida construction offices located in the heart of Fort Lauderdale just off Las Olas Blvd.

Coral Steel Company is pleased to announce it has been awarded the materials supply contract for the new Lake Worth Road and Florida's Turnpike Interchange by the prime contractor Hubbard Construction. They will be supplying fabricated concrete reinforcing steel for the structures portion of this project, which includes two 100' x 87" diameter drilled shaft caissons.

Stephen R. Palmer, chief operating officer for the **Stiles Corporation**, inducted into the University of Florida's Construction Hall of Fame at the University's M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction on October 17. Palmer launched his construction career as an estimator at Stiles in 1979, after graduating from the University of Florida with a degree in Building Construction. He served as president of Stiles Construction for 12 years, and was named Chief Operating Officer for Stiles Corporation in 1994.

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Stephen R. Palmer

Integrity, Accountability and Teamwork

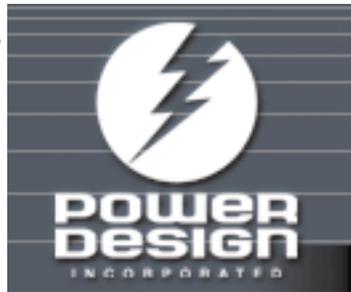
Each month Construction FOCUS features a CASF member company, selected by drawing a business card from among those attending the monthly networking breakfast. The next breakfast, sponsored by James A. Cummings, Inc., will be held on Thursday, November 19, 7:30 a.m. at the Embassy Suites - Boca Raton off Yamato Road.

With over 100 active projects, a 70,000 square foot national headquarter facility and sales exceeding \$1 billion dollars, Power Design is well-known in the electrical contracting industry. Power Design serves its customers in diverse geographic locations including South Florida, offering a scope of services that includes third-party engineering and low-voltage systems.

Since being established in 1989, Power Design has performed work for 75 of the top 100 general contractors and developers in the country.

For effective quality control, all Power Design's products are delivered and housed in the distribution center well in advance. This

gives them sufficient time to check the quality of the materials and provide assurance to the customer that the product is securely stored and ready for installation as the schedule dictates. This distribution center is also utilized to house



other highly customized, long lead time products including generators, fire alarms and switch gear equipment.

Power Design's core values have been the foundation of their success since the company was founded. Through a company-wide initiative, their employees play an active role in identifying, articulating and selecting the corporate values including: integrity, accountability, teamwork, innovation, and

growth. They encourage their team members to hold each other accountable to demonstrate these values on a daily basis, by allowing employees to recognize and reward their co-workers who consistently display these values.

Partnering with Power Design on a design-build project provides a customer with one, single point of contact from design through to construction. Power Design's team of professional engineers and construction personnel have the knowledge and skills necessary to design and install a quality, cost-effective product. This may involve complete electrical design responsibilities, construction documents, telecom systems, audio visual, security, lighting controls, life safety, and LEED certified review.

Power Design has built a diverse portfolio, working with a variety of construction types including conventional, wood frame, tunnel form, and renovation. With hundreds of projects completed, Power Design provides its customers with the knowledge and expertise needed to ensure the most cost-effective and code compliant product is delivered. From renovating a 100 year old historic building into a 5 star hotel in Miami to converting a dilapidated high-rise building into luxury apartments in Maryland, Power Design has the ability to complete the most complex projects.

Power Design, Inc. is located at 11600 9th St., N. St. Petersburg, FL 33716. For more information, call Brian Thompson at 954-914-6405 or email bthompson@powerdesigninc.us.

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Construction Focus is the official publication of the Construction Association of South Florida. Article suggestions and submissions for publication consideration should be forwarded to the Executive Vice President.

First Annual Crane Safety Stand-Down

In a bold move, CASF along with several industry leaders created an alliance with OSHA, with a mission of creating safer Crane and Rigging working environments. The first mission is the Crane Safety Stand-down to be held on November 4, 2009

What is the Crane Safety Stand-Down?

The Stand-Down is a meeting implemented by all construction firms to educate their staff on Crane and Rigging safety awareness.

What are the benefits of the Stand-Down?

- ♦ A staff that is aware of safety risks and hazards is better prepared to avoid accidents
- ♦ Help reduce costs associated with accidents and hazards
- ♦ Help reduce down-time associated with Crane accidents

How do we implement a Stand-Down?

The Florida Crane Safety Alliance provides tips on:

- Proper Set up / Level
- Operating Conditions
- Proper Matting
- Inspections
- Overhead Power

Who Should Participate in the Stand-Down?

Everyone in Florida is encouraged to take part in this Stand Down. It is important that Leadership and Senior Operations Managers take an active role and are visible on the sites.

Mobile Crane Hazard Awareness

Ask the workers what the key risks they face on the site on which they are working and how they are managing those risks. Ask them what the impact on their

family or loved ones would be if they did not go home that night.

-Encourage them to be particularly vigilant around electricity and overhead power lines as this is a continuing area of concern.

-Contact with High Voltage is the leading cause of death when working around cranes.

-Lightning in South Florida is also of great concern when operating or working around cranes.

-Discuss how they should be aware of the risk of falling materials and how they should be vigilant when loads are swung overhead.

-Discuss the importance of having qualified riggers and proper rigging materials

-Explain the importance of wearing the right P.P.E. and high visibility clothing

Many workers have suffered severe injuries to the hands and/or amputations when they were caught underneath a load. Ask what are some simple ways to reduce these injuries?

Pass around examples of damaged rigging. Maybe something that came from your particular project.

Tower Crane Awareness

Tower cranes are an important part aspect of high rise construction. This equipment operates high over head, be alert and understand the signals.

Operators are very dependent upon communications and many times, they are lifting in the blind.

-Are your project perimeters secured to prevent persons from entering your site? How about the project itself, is the perimeter secured to prevent persons

from walking underneath a lift or overhead hazard?

-Lighting also is a critical factor to be aware. Tower cranes are natural lightning rods and workers can be exposed when working around the rigging.

-Inspection(s), who knows the equipment, is the operator inspecting the tower every day, where is the documentation?

-Wind – at height, the wind becomes an issue and swinging loads may require additional planning or stoppage altogether.

-Adjacent structures – swinging loads over streets, sidewalks and buildings must be carefully planned or avoided if possible.

The Florida Crane Alliance is committed to educate the community and workforce on the hazards of working around cranes.

The Florida Crane Alliance is offering training opportunities around the state to help the workforce recognize the hazards of working around cranes.

These courses will focus on:

- ♦ Rigging and Signaling
- ♦ Proper Crane Set Up
- ♦ Crane Inspections
- ♦ Operator Certifications

The first course of a four part educational series will be *Rigging Awareness 101*. This 8-hour course will arm participants with the necessary safety knowledge to work safely with and around Cranes and Rigging.

For more information contact Vergie Bain, Compliance Assistance Specialist, U.S. DOL - OSHA at 954-424-0242.



Raising Money for Endowed Scholarships



Thursday, October 29
Ft. Lauderdale Antique Car Museum

ROUTE 10:

3500 NW 9TH AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33309

CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH FLORIDA

FOCUS

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