Loss Control Alert – Scissor-lift Pinch Point

Incident

Curtain Wall/Glazier worker had his foot crushed in a pinch-point on scissor-lift frame. As two Glazier’s were working on a scissor-lift together, the injured party unhooked from his anchor point and began to climb out of the lift prior to it being completely lowered. He put his foot in the crush point shown here. Suffered a metatarsal fracture.

Contributing Factors

- Foot caught in scissor-lift frame, which is not a step.
- Working in haste (end of the day, eager to go home).
- Premature exit of scissor-lift being operated by a working foreman.
- Unsafe scissor-lift use with operator not looking and communicating with partner.
- Steps, hazards and safety measures not reviewed in Daily Huddles in enough detail.

Preventing Reoccurrence

- Increase specific Critical Safe Behavior coaching for all lifts and machinery use, to be done daily to assist in addressing unsafe lift and machinery operation trends and coach workers to follow safe work behaviors.
- Ensure Daily Huddles are covering scissor lift safety (use Operators Manual for safe use suggestions), specifically:
  - Operator’s responsibility to do a 360° look around to clear the area and communicate intended movement with partner before doing so
  - Partner is to communicate to operator if he plans to exit or enter the lift prior to doing so
  - Project stand-down by trade to specifically cover this hazard
  - Operator of lift to be in full control of lift and personnel inside the lift
  - No one to enter/exit lift until the all clear verbal command had been issued by the operator of the lift

Please share this alert immediately with all applicable contractors using lifts. Use the alert as an opening to have subs review manufacturer’s guidelines for safe operation with their operators.