



Toolbox Talk: Near Misses

What is a Near Miss?

A **near miss** is an unplanned event that did not result in injury or damage—but had the potential to result in injury or damage.

- It is not “nothing happened.”
- It is “**something almost happened.**”

Why Near Misses Matter

Serious injuries are frequently preceded by multiple near-miss incidents.

Near misses provide valuable lessons at no cost—everyone remains safe, yet we gain important insights.

- If we ignore them, we are just waiting for the same situation to come back... worse.

Common Examples

- A tool falls from height but misses someone.
- A worker slips but catches themselves.
- Equipment backs up and stops just short of hitting someone.
- A load shifts unexpectedly but does not fall.

Why Do People Not Report Them

Let us be honest:

- “No one got hurt, so it’s not a big deal.”
- “I don’t want to get someone in trouble.”
- “I don’t want to look like I messed up.”

But here is the truth:

- **Not reporting a near miss is how accidents are born.**

What We Need to Do Differently

1. **Recognize It**
 - If something almost went wrong—it counts.
2. **Report It**
 - Speak up immediately. This is not about blame - it is about prevention.
3. **Learn From It**
 - Ask:
 - What caused it?
 - What could have happened?
 - What do we change so it does not happen again?

4. **Share It**

- One near miss shared could prevent someone else's injury tomorrow.

Crew Discussion

- Has anyone here had a near miss recently?
- What happened—and what could have happened?
- What can we change on this site today to prevent it?

Safety Culture Moment

A company with a great safety culture does not hide near misses—they report them. Every near miss caught is possibly one more injury prevented.

Key Takeaway:

Near misses are warnings, not coincidences. Treat them like the close calls they are because next time, we might not be so lucky.



**Indiana Department of Labor and CCS
Monthly Partnership Report
February 2026**

The following companies are signatory to the IDOL/CCS Partnership Agreement:

AAA Roofing Co., Inc.

Advanced Rescue Solutions

AECOM Hunt

Airtek Construction

Allison Farms Lawn & Landscaping

ASI

Black Swamp Steel, Inc.

Blood Hound, LLC

BMWC Constructors

Bowen Engineering Corporation

Broady-Campbell

Brown Sprinkler Corporation

C&C Sheet Metal, LLC

Cathodic Protection Management

Charah, LLC

CMS Corporation

D.A. Dodd, LLC

Denney Excavating, Inc.

Diversified Painting Co.

Edwards Electrical & Mechanical

Electric Plus, Inc.

Empire Contractors

Engineered Facades

ERMCO

F.A. Wilhelm Construction Co., Inc.

F.E. Moran, Inc. Fire Protection

F.E. Moran, Inc. Special Hazard Systems

Freitag-Weinhardt, Inc.

Garmong Construction Services

Gaylor Electric, Inc.

Georgia Western, LLC

Gibson-Lewis of Indianapolis, LLC

Gribbins Insulation Co., Inc.

Gurtz Electric

Harrell-Fish, Inc.

Henry C. Smither Roofing Co., Inc.

Hoist & Crane Service Group

Horning Roofing & Sheet Metal Co. LLC

Industrial Electric, Inc.

Interior Specialties

J.F. Electric, Incorporated

JDH Contracting

JMH Roofing Co., Inc.

Johnson Controls

JT Thorpe & Son, Inc.

Keramida

Kirk Erectors
Kleis Construction
Leach & Russell Mechanical
Lensing Wholesale, Inc.
Long Electric Co. Inc.
M.J. Electric, IPC
M.J. Electric, LLC
Mason Private Locating
Meade, Inc.
Mel-Kay Electric
Messer Construction Co.
Millennium Steel Inc.
Nelson Insulation, Co.
Performance Contracting Inc.
Poettker Construction Company
Poynter Sheet Metal
P PMI Firestop
Premier Power Maintenance
R. Adams Roofing
R.L. McCoy, Inc.
Ragle, Inc.
Reliance Engineering
Richeson Contracting, Inc.
Ritter Plbg Co Inc.
River Town Construction, LLC
RLTurner
RSQ Fire Protection
Ryan Fireprotection, Inc.
Safety Medic
Santarossa Mosaic & Tile Co., Inc.
Scaffold King Rentals, Inc.

Shambaugh & Son L.P.

- **Dalmation Fire**
- **Ed Grace**
- **Havel**
- **ASG**
- **AS/CC**

Shiel Sexton Company, Inc.
Smock Fansler Corporation
***Smoot Construction, LLC**
Solid Platforms, Inc.
STAR Environmental
STATS International, Inc.
Steinberger Construction
Sterling Industrial, LLC
Sub-Surface of Indiana, Inc.
Sullivan & Poore, Inc.
Superheat FGH Services
The Blakley Corporation

- **Gates Company**
- **AWS**
- **Ceramic Tile and Terrazzo**

The Hagerman Group
The Skillman Corporation
The State Group Industrial (USA)
Tonn and Blank Construction
Triangle Enterprises, Inc.
Turner Construction Company
US Hydrovac Inc.
Wealing Brothers
Weddle Bros. Construction Companies
Wright Tree Service

FEBRUARY RATES

Aggregate Partnership Days Away Restricted and Transfer (DART) Rate: 0.24

Total Number of OSHA Cases with Days Away, Restriction or Transfer X 200,000

8

Total Number of Hours Worked by Partners

6,751,034

Aggregate Partnership Total Recordable Case (TRC) Rate: 0.65

Total Number of OSHA Recordable Incidents X 200,000

22

Total Number of Hours Worked by Partners

6,751,034

YTD RATES

Aggregate Partnership Days Away Restricted and Transfer (DART) Rate: 0.27

Total Number of OSHA Cases with Days Away, Restriction or Transfer X 200,000

18

Total Number of Hours Worked by Partners

13,523,643

Aggregate Partnership Total Recordable Case (TRC) Rate: 0.68

Total Number of OSHA Recordable Incidents X 200,000

46

Total Number of Hours Worked by Partners

13,523,643

Incident Number	Date	Incident Narrative
1	2/2026	(H) While installing fittings with a roll groover machine, the employee's hand was caught between a pipe wrench and the machine, resulting in a fractured finger.
2	2/2026	(H) While tightening fittings on threaded pipe, the pipe became stuck in the machine and, as the employee attempted to remove it, the machine was activated and her hand was pinched between the clamp and the pipe, resulting in a crushed hand.
3	2/2026	(H) Employee pinched a finger under a door frame that was not initially reported and treated as first aid; approximately three weeks later, the injury became infected and required surgical intervention.
4	2/2026	(I) Employee was cutting on a ceiling grid when the bandsaw broke through the pipe and caught employee on the arm, causing a laceration.
5	2/2026	(I) Employee stepped down onto uneven surface and sprained left ankle.
6	2/2026	(I) While assisting with installing the winch line, hook, and block on a 100-ton crane, the block tipped over and struck the employee's right foot as tension was released, resulting in a fracture.
7	2/2026	(I) Employee was pushing down on a tool when the tool rolled and caused the hand to bend, fracturing the right hand.
8	2/2026	(I) While carrying a scaffold tube, the employee tripped over a rail and fell forward, with the tube striking his right hand and causing fractures to the index and middle fingers.
9	2/2026	(J) Without PPE (gloves), employee was pulling a crate out of a truck when an exposed metal screw caught the back of his hand, causing laceration.
10	2/2026	(J) Material shifted while employee's hand was in a pinch-point area, pinching the hand and causing laceration.
11	2/2026	(J) While operating an impact wrench, the adapter broke and a fragment struck the employee's gloved left hand, resulting in a laceration to the left middle finger.
12	2/2026	(J) Employee sustained a rolled ankle and strain from slipping while walking away from a batwing digger during breakdown activities.
13	2/2026	(J) While pulling his elbow from a transformer with a shotgun, the employee felt pain in his left elbow, later determined to be a partial tear.
14	2/2026	(J) While servicing an AHU, the employee fell and injured his right leg.
15	2/2026	(J) Employee cut hand with knife while stripping wire.
16	2/2026	(J) While setting a piece of limestone on a footing, the employee placed his hand under the material to make an adjustment, and the piece dropped and pinched his finger.
17	2/2026	(J) Employee sustained a laceration to the inside of the lip requiring stitches after a tool was not properly held and it recoiled, striking him in the mouth.
18	2/2026	(J) Employee placed his foot in front of a loaded skid, which then ran over his foot and sustained a toe fracture.
19	2/2026	(J) After getting a finger pinched between a Unistrut and a beam, employee sustained a finger fracture.
20	2/2026	(J) Employee fell into a metal structure resulting in a laceration to the right forearm.
21	2/2026	(J) Employee cut his right arm on a metal stud, causing laceration requiring 4 stitches.
22	2/2026	(J) Employee required stiches after using a planer incorrectly and it kicked back, cutting his hand.

*Companies on probation for not reporting statistics for February: Smoot Construction	**Companies Suspended due to Not Current Status:
Companies removed from partnership: Miller-Eads Co. Inc.	Companies added to partnership: