



DID YOU KNOW?

Common hazards around conveyors include:

- Shear points
- Pinch points
- Spills and falling materials
- Power transmission interfaces, such as drives or shafts

Ensure that:

- There is enough clearance between the material being transported and any fixed or moving object.
- Shearing points between the moving and fixed parts are avoided.
- Material is not fed onto a stopped conveyor.
- Power-driven conveyors that can be accessed by employees have emergency stop devices at the loading and unloading stations, drive and take-up sections and other accessible places along the run of the conveyor.
- The conveyor has an anti-rollback device for loads carried up an incline.
- Designated crossing areas are provided where employees must travel over a conveyor.
- Sheet metal or screen guards are installed under or alongside the conveyor, if it is not entirely enclosed, to prevent material from falling off the conveyor.
- A conveyor that is accessible by employees has adequate safeguards that extend 1 m from the pulleys and along the sides of a belt conveyor.

Conveyor Safety

Are you Protected?

When used correctly, conveyors can be a safe and efficient way to move materials and supplies throughout a facility. With this increased production comes increased dangers if safety procedures are not followed. Thousands of serious injuries, amputations, and fatalities occur every year as a result of improper use and poor maintenance of conveyors.

Common conveyor belt-related injuries include lacerations, pinching, electrocution, being dragged into the conveyor, being struck by materials, and friction burns. The purpose of this safety talk is to outline general safety procedures to follow when working around conveyors.

With the increase in production using conveyors, comes an increased risk of injury if the proper safeguards are not in place. Follow all recommended guidelines set by the manufacturer for the equipment used. Do not deviate from the recommended safe work practices put into place. If conditions change or you are ever unsure about a situation, stop work and contact a supervisor.



Best Practices When Using Conveyor Belts

- Conveyors should never be walked on or under, stood on, or used as transportation.
- Conveyors should only be used to move the materials.
- Only personnel who have been properly trained should operate or maintain a conveyor.
- Conveyor operators should be aware of all pinch points. Operators should be alert when removing materials from the conveyor and ensure their hands are safe from pinch points.
- When operating a conveyor, it is important to keep all loose clothing, jewelry, and hair away from the moving parts. Loose articles can easily become caught in the conveyor, resulting in injury to the employee.
- Conveyor guards should never be altered, removed, or bypassed.
- Conveyor controls should be inspected prior to operating the machine to ensure the functions are operating properly.
- Prior to jams being cleared, maintenance, or repairs being performed on the conveyor, lock-out/tag-out procedures should always be followed.
- Ensure you are familiar with the startup alarm. If you notice the alarm is no longer working, report this to your supervisor immediately.
- If you see something, say something. Employees should be encouraged to report any misuse of conveyors or defects to prevent injury from occurring.)