
Safe Working around Equipment and Vehicles

While ground support equipment and vehicles are critical part of ground operations, they also pose the potential to cause serious injuries and sometime even fatalities. As an example, as per the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported that over 40 workplace fatalities a year are the result of conveyor accidents, along with 9,000 injuries.

It is easy for loose clothing, jewelry or hair to get trapped in conveyor belts or moving equipment and, if personnel are not paying attention, they could get caught in the equipment. With the recent incident in ground operations which resulted in fatality due to personnel long hair got trapped in the belt loader during loading/unloading process, there is an urgent need to reinforce the related safe work practices.

IATA has reviewed the procedures in IGOM/AHM and decided to add the following caution:

"IGOM 3.1.3.1 and AHM 462 - Personnel working with and around vehicles and equipment must protect themselves from loose clothing, long hair, and/or hanging accessories/jewelry from becoming a hazard, e.g., caught or trapped in equipment".

"IGOM 3.1.2.5 - Neckties or other loose hanging accessories which may pose risk shall be of the quick release type (clip)".

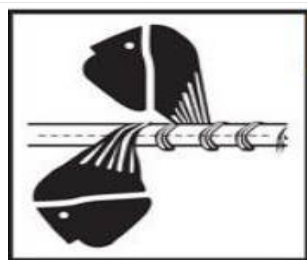
"IGOM 3.1.3.7 Caution - Care shall always be taken when working around a moving belt. Personnel shall remain vigilant to trap hazards while raising/lowering the safety rails. Keep hands/fingers away from the edges/ends of the belt where they may become trapped. Belt movement shall be stopped before any attempt to clear any obstructions"

In addition, following best safe practices should be adopted and adhered to:

- Where possible do not wear loose clothing and remove jewelry.
- If not possible, loose-fitting clothing and loose hair should be tied back / covered.
- Personnel shall remain vigilant of each other while working around/with equipment and vehicles.



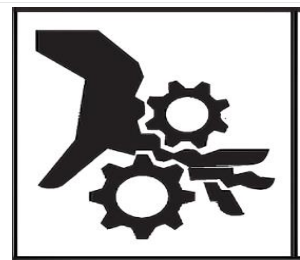
Keep clothing, hair and body part away from conveyers and rollers



**Rotating rollers can cause severe injury
Keep hair & loose clothing away**



**Conveyor may start without warning
Moving parts can cut and crush.
Keep hand and body clear of Conveyor**



An airline or handler shall not deviate from an industry recommendations as defined in IGOM/AHM unless absolutely necessary, and only after a risk assessment has been carried out to ensure exceptions are unavoidable and equivalent safety measures are in place to mitigate risks.

Note: For more information on Ground Injury Prevention Program, please refer to