Lesson Review: Struck-By

Remember: A struck-by hazard is anything that produces forcible contact or impact between injured person and an object or piece of equipment.

There are four categories:
- Struck-by flying object
- Struck-by falling object
- Struck-by swinging object
- Struck-by rolling object

Struck-by flying object hazards are those that are thrown, hurled, or propelled through space and strike workers.

Struck-by falling object hazards exist when something falls from an elevation to lower level.

Struck-by swinging object hazards occur when materials are mechanically lifted, thus having potential to swing, slam or slip and strike workers.

Struck-by rolling object hazards occur when an object is rolling, moving or sliding on the same level as a worker.

You can protect yourself from struck-by hazards by:
- Staying away from or being alert when around heavy equipment such as cranes, excavators
- Practicing vehicle safety while in and around, including wearing highly visible reflective clothing and using traffic signs/barriers and flaggers
- Following safe work practices, such as not using compressed air to clean clothing, securing tools/materials, proper use of pneumatic and powder-actuated tools, using only properly guarded equipment
- Wearing PPE as appropriate, such as safety glasses, face shields, highly visible reflective clothing, hard hats

Employers must protect workers from struck-by hazards by:
- Ensuring safety of heavy equipment such as cranes and excavators, and the environment in which they are operated
- OSHA requires that crane operators be notified if a worker enters the area of operation and must not rotate the crane until it is clear of workers. It also requires that heavy equipment with obstructed views must not operate in reverse unless it has an audible signal alarm or a worker has signaled it's safe.
- Ensuring that work areas in proximity of moving vehicles are properly planned and barricaded and have proper warning signage
- Ensuring equipment/tools are inspected, maintained, guarded and secured
- Providing PPE appropriate for the working situation
- Training workers to recognize and avoid hazards, properly operate equipment/tools, follow OSHA signal standards, know basic rules of rigging safety