IUEC INCIDENT SUMMARY

CLOSE CALLS, NEAR MISSES AND INJURIES

"NEAR MISS"

Description of Incident

Control Type: Solid State
Machine Type: Electric
Speed: 700 FPM
Capacity: 3,500 lb
Rise: 19 Floors
Hoistway Configuration: 6 Car Group

- A modernization team was removing an 8,000 lb. sheave and armature assembly of a gearless machine to move it to another area of the machine room to cut and separate the assembly.
- The team was using a 2-ton electric chain hoist and a 2-ton beam trolley to assist in pulling the assembly toward the center of the overhead hoist beam.
- They were transferring the load from its position on an elevated concrete slab to the overhead hoist beam in the machine room in order to move the sheave and armature over the floor hatch to another area of the machine room.
- As they picked the assembly off of the elevated slab, the four wheeled beam trolly came off the bottom flange of the hoist beam causing the assembly to fall.
- The beam trolley was not positioned directly over the load when picked, resulting in, side loading of the trolley wheels on the beam flange.
- The weight of the hoisted sheave and armature assemble was double the rated capacity of the chain fall and the beam trolley.
- During this process the load dropped 18 feet , to the lower level, breaking the floor. This area of the building was unoccupied, and no injuries occurred.

Recommendations and Lessons Learned

- Always follow the company safety policy.
- Always use properly rated equipment for the task being performed.
- Always complete a Hoisting & Rigging Plan prior to beginning a task.
- Always perform a JHA/JSA per company policy.
- OSHA 1926.554 Overhead Hoists
  (a) General Requirements
- (1) The safe working load of the overhead hoist, as determined by the manufacturer, shall be indicated on the hoist, and this safe working load shall not be exceeded.
- (2) The supporting structure to which the hoist is attached shall have a safe working load equal to that of the hoist.
- (3) The support shall be arraigned so as to provide for free movement of the hoist and shall not restrict the hoist from lining itself up with the load.
- (4) The hoist shall be installed only in locations that will permit the operator to stand clear of the load at all times.
- (5) Air hoists shall be connected to an air supply of sufficient capacity and pressure to safely operate the hoist. All air hoses supplying air shall be positively connected to prevent their becoming disconnected during use.
- (6) All overhead hoists in use shall meet the applicable requirements for construction, design, installation, testing, inspection, maintenance, and operation, as prescribed by the manufacturer.