



IUEC INCIDENT SUMMARY

CLOSE CALLS & INJURIES

INJURY

MAY 5, 2025



Description of Incident

Control Type: Electric

Machine Type: Traction

Work Type: Modernization

Speed: 1,000 ft/min, Capacity: 3,500 lbs

Rise: 40 Floors

Hoistway Configuration: 2 Car Group w/ Future Center Hoistway

JHA/JSA Completed: Yes



- A modernization crew was replacing hoist ropes on an elevator with compensation
- To do so, they detached the compensating ropes from the counterweight frame and used short steel pipe stands to support the compensating sheave
- Once the hoist ropes were replaced, the apprentice, forgetting the compensating ropes were detached, used a bottle jack to raise the sheave and remove the pipe stands
- After removing the pipe stands the apprentice realized the error and tried to jack the sheave back up to replace the pipe stands
- The bottle jack toppled over, and the sheave fell on the apprentice's hand pinning him to the pit floor
- The remaining crew used pry bars to lift the sheave and free the apprentice

Current Status:

The apprentice was immediately transported to a local hospital to treat his injuries.



Recommendations & Lessons Learned

- Always follow the company safety policy
- Always perform a JHA/JSA as per company policy

Possible Root Cause:

- The rigging plan did not include a secondary means to support the compensating sheave while the cables were removed

Field Employees' Safety Handbook

Section 12 Material Handling

12.3 Hoisting and Rigging – Safety Absolute

(b) Always stay clear of the load. Do not stand under the load. Know the weight of the load, the capacity of your equipment, the structure to which you are rigging and the overall condition of these items. Stand uphill or to the side of a load that's on a ramp.

