The Risk of Vehicle Collisions on Construction Sites

Collisions with vehicles are a common hazard—both in daily life and especially on dynamic, ever-changing construction sites.

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1 in 4 "Struck By Vehicle" deaths in America involve construction workers.

75% of these involve heavy equipment.

These incidents are often avoidable by separating heavy equipment traffic from pedestrians and workers. Many construction sites see foot traffic and heavy machinery sharing the same paths, especially when workers are moving between work zones and personal vehicles.

Creating designated pedestrian pathways greatly reduces the chance of a struck-by incident.

Designing Proper Pathways

Proper pathway design should begin in the pre-planning phase and be re-evaluated whenever the jobsite changes. The goal: separate pedestrian traffic from vehicle and equipment traffic.

Key recommendations:

- Establish clearly marked walkways.
- Create designated crossing points—as short as possible.
- Ensure crossings and walkways are free of blind spots, such as around buildings or piles of material.

What to Avoid

⚠️ Common pathway hazards include:

- Blind spots and obstructed views.
- Long shared paths between vehicles and pedestrians.
- Walkways near equipment routes without proper barriers or markings.

Key Considerations for Safer Pathways

When designing or updating site pathways, consider:

- Excavation zones and earthmoving areas – Restrict access to authorized personnel only
- Material delivery and unloading zones – These should be clearly marked and kept separate from foot traffic
- Consistent updates – Reassess and redesign pathways when site conditions or traffic patterns change

Pathway design is not a one-time action—it's a continuous part of safety management.

Discussion Topics

1. Have you ever witnessed a struck by accident or hear of one on the news?

2. What are some aspects of a safe jobsite pathway network?

3. What are some potential hazards and unsafe conditions that can appear on unideal or poorly maintained walkways?

Name	Signature

Date: _____