

Material Loading and Unloading

Class Reading - Review Learning Objectives

Course Description:

Preplanning the placement of materials at a jobsite is one of the best ways to secure a safe environment. This module will discuss the best practices for material loading and unloading.

Learning Objectives:

At the close of this course, you will be able to:

1. Create a plan for loading and unloading materials based on specific jobsite hazards.
2. Review procedures for loading and unloading materials on a truck.
3. List safety measures needed.
4. Understand that there is no place for complacency in the stone industry.

Let's recap some of the highlights from the video:

Creating a plan for loading and unloading materials:

- Each installation team should:
 - Review PPE the crew should wear on the jobsite.
 - Evaluate the equipment used on the jobsite.
 - Detail materials needed for the installation.
- Before an installation team arrives at the jobsite, they should make sure tools are working properly.
- Installation teams should review hazards they will confront on the jobsite and how to eliminate unsafe situations.
- Installation teams should review when hazardous weather conditions could make loading and unloading supplies difficult.
- Regardless of how many times an installer has performed a procedure, he or she should plan and think before they execute each move.
- Installers should focus on eliminating the following hazards:
 - Being struck or crushed by tipping or falling materials
 - Being struck or caught between falling slabs or stone pieces.
 - Being stuck by pieces of shattered stone.
 - Damage to a dropped load.
 - Hitting a fellow employee with a load.
 - Incorrectly balanced or secured loads.
 - A spotter being struck or caught between pieces of stone.
 - Injury to hands because of frayed cables and jagged stone edges.
 - Back injuries caused by improper lifting or too few crew members for the amount of weight.



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Loading and Unloading Materials:

- There should be a spotter on the ground and on the truck when loading stone on a flatbed truck with an A-Frame.
- Stone should be loaded on an A-Frame face –to- face and back-to-back.
- Always load an A-frame with the tallest piece placed on the inside and decreasing height as you move out.
- Stone pieces should be fastened to the truck using four-inch straps.
- Covered trucks should follow the same basic A-frame stacking procedures as flatbed trucks.
- Before unloading crates, bundles and individual pieces, the hook should be placed above the stone being removed and then connected to whatever is being used to hoist the load from the flatbed.



Safety Measures:

- Whether unloading at a jobsite or off-site, it is important to remember:
 - Wear proper PPE.
 - A certified lift operator should be employed.
 - Proper rigging procedures should be followed, such as placing the straps in the right point and alignment of the load if multiple.
 - Do not overload the lift.
 - Use a back-up beeper or signal.
 - Make sure there is assistance of the load while rigged, to prevent it from swinging.
 - Stand clear of the load in case of a slab or crate falling.