

Special Safety Procedures for Consumers

(Source: Safety in the Stone Business Technical Module, 2011, MIA)

Check List

Identifying the special safety procedures needed when consumers are present; think about it: a stone shop, showroom, warehouse or yard is hazardous for trained employees, imagine the hazard to unsuspecting customers! Here is a primary check list for establishing safety precautions to protect consumers:

- Make sure all racks are designed for weights they will be holding and follow industry standards for bracing materials on A-frames and other storage racks.
- Never overload an A-frame or rack.
- If high winds are a possibility, all outside slab storage should be secured accordingly.
- Slabs should not be stored in a showroom if they pose a danger to customers. Showroom samples should be small enough so they are not dangerous.
- Many shops do not allow customers into the production area. If your company does, make sure customers are outfitted with hard hats and safety glasses.
- Keep customers a safe distance from overhead lifting equipment.
- Never allow customers to be in your shop or outdoor storage area without a designated escort at all times. That means customers should never be left alone.
- Children should be closely supervised and not allowed to run around. Some companies have play rooms to help amuse children while their parents are inspecting stone slabs.
- Only designated employees with specific training in slab handling should handle materials when customers are present.
- Warn customers to stay a good distance from forklift trucks.



If you follow these and other overall safety precautions in your place of business, the kind of tragedy that struck the Moeller family in Florida can be avoided.



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