Rebar Impalement Protection Stats and Facts

FACTS

1. Factors that can lead to impalement incidents include:

- Unprotected rebar dowels
- Reliance on mushroom caps, which don’t protect workers from impalement.
- Improper wooden trough installment
- Inadequate precautions when working over dowel covers.
- Inattention to other impalement hazards besides rebar

2. Hazards

Unloading from vehicle & stacking of reinforcement bars.

- Rash vehicular movement – Injury to workmen.
- Reversing of the vehicle – Run over on workmen.
- Unloading of sharp edged Rebars – Cut Injury.
- Improper stacking – Trip, Fall & Injury

STATS

- According to OSHA statistics, 61% of construction accidents can be attributed to impalement from rebar.
- In 2020, the construction industry tragically realized 1,008 on-the-job fatalities, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).
- OSHA reported incidents involving rebar impalement result in death just over 26% of the time. 61 incidents, of which 16 were fatal. There is an average of 1.7 rebar impalement injuries reported to OSHA every year.
- According to OSHA 1 in 5 worker deaths in the United States in 2019 were construction related. The leading cause of death among construction workers were falls, which accounted

for about 33% of their deaths. These deaths are not explicitly rebar impalement related.

- 2021 – These steel bars can cut, scratch, pierce, and impale workers, which resulted in 65 % of serious internal injuries and death.