Blind Spot Activity

1. Stage a dump truck (or other large piece of equipment) in an open area or parking lot. If possible, secure several different types of equipment to demonstrate how blind spots vary from one piece of equipment to another. Lock-out the vehicle and remove keys from cab. Instruct one worker to sit in the cab and observe workers through his mirrors and windows.

2. Position employees in various positions around the vehicle, including directly in front, on the right-side and behind the parked truck.

3. Instruct the employees on foot to move to various locations, extending distances until the driver can see them in the mirrors. Place cones on the ground when they become visible.

4. By completing this exercise around the vehicle you will be able to obtain the length and width of areas where workers are not visible, helping them realize the size and location of blind spots.

Variations: Park a heavy piece of equipment and stage a pickup truck in different blind areas around the equipment. Let workers sit in the operator’s seat to visualize the blind areas. (Be sure to lock out the equipment and pickup when performing these types of exercises.)

Other variations of these exercises can be done by using different sized objects to illustrate how blind areas change depending upon the size of the object. Generally, blind spots become larger as objects are closer to ground level.