

IN OR OUT?

When you load or unload a truck, trailer, or other vehicle are the drivers and occupants IN or OUT?

- Do you *have* a policy?
- What is it?
- Do your yard workers know what it is?
- Do your customers know what it is?
- Do the drivers of commercial vehicles that come into your yard know what your policy is?

If you want drivers and passengers out of the vehicle while loading/unloading, where do you want them to go? If you don't have a designated place for them, decide on one now. Make sure the designated place isn't taking them from the frying pan into the fire. While you may eliminate hazards removing them from the vehicle, you may well introduce them to new hazards making them stand in the yard. They can be exposed to truck and peddler traffic, crane swings, and flying scrap. Children are especially vulnerable when coming as passengers to a scrap yard. School will soon be out of session. Grandpa and Grandma may bring the grandkids along to see the cool scrap yard. You may need to make special provisions for children. They do come. What are you going to do with them? The layout of every operation is a different, presenting its own set of hazards. Take the time right now to determine a safe place where people should go.

If your policy is to allow truck drivers to stay in the cab, have you trained your crane operators to a point where you are sure scrap is never swung over the cab? Do you make exceptions to this policy in the event of loading pipe or beams? Do the crane operators know to make sure they keep visual contact with drivers and customers of their respective vehicles?

Do you have a policy stating how many people you allow in the yard per vehicle? Not long ago, three men brought some engine blocks into a scrap yard. They backed up to the pile, and all three got out to shove the blocks out of the truck bed. Two of them got back in. The third was looking at something in the pile. The crane operator thought all the men were back in the truck and dropped a chunk of scrap on him.

With hundreds of customers and tons of scrap every day, it's a challenge to keep everyone in the operation safe.

RISE TO THE CHALLENGE.

This e-mail was produced by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. For more information, visit us on the Web at www.ISRI.org
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June 15, 2010