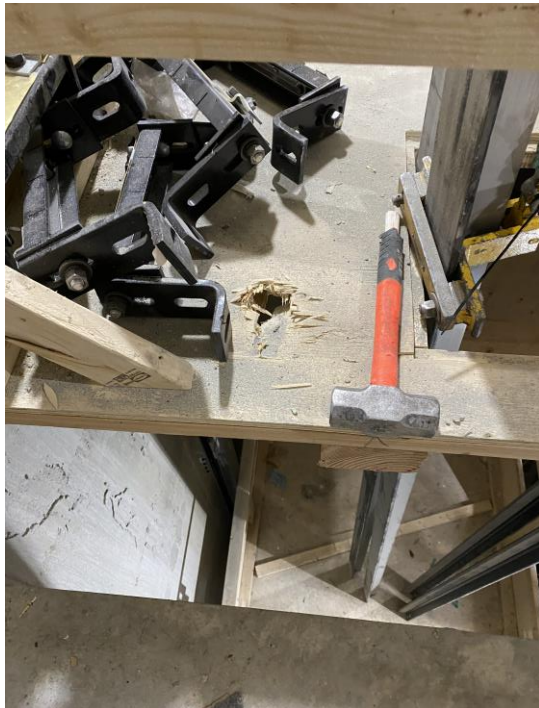


# SAFETY ALERT

Mechanics were completing piping in the machine room. Workers were also railing in the hoisway below. Site specific circumstances created the situation. A hammer was dropped through a machine room hole and fell down the hoistway landing on a working platform below, next to another mechanic.

## What happened?

An NI crew was preparing to commence stacked work in a high rise tower. The crew set to work in the machine room, completed their FLHA, noting the stacked work hazard and the holes in the machine room floor. The NI crew below completed their FLHA and began work understanding the holes were to be covered. Covering the holes was not done. Shortly after beginning their work, the machine room crew dropped a hammer through one of the holes. The hammer fell 30+ stories and impacted a work platform less than 3ft from another mechanic.



The hammer fell 30+ stories and impacted a beam on the way down before impacting the platform. As you can see in the photo, the hammer impacted the top of the platform where the employe would have been standing, in order to install rails.

The mechanics in the machine room were unaware of the incident and were immediately notified via phone communication by the mechanics below

## What did we learn from the analysis of accident causes?

Extra care must be taken when performing stacked work. Whenever possible, avoid stacked work and do it as only a last resort. Controls to eliminate the hazard must be implemented before beginning any tasks. Hazards listed on an FLHA **MUST** be properly controlled by the crew who recognized them. In this specific case, the mechanics in the machine room identified the hazard and the control but did not implement covering the holes.

## Preventative and corrective actions:

All work was stopped. Investigation began.

The machine room holes were immediately covered with wood as they should have been.

The mechanics who dropped the hammer were brought in for re-training on Hazard Recognition and Control.

The mechanics were also suspended.

3<sup>rd</sup> Q safety training emphasis on hazard recognition and control.