

Lessons Learned



— MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS —

Date: 12/16/2021

Region: Wenatchee

Project: Central Washington Hospital

Incident Title: Air Compressor tips over during install

Summary

At 3pm, the Central Washington Hospital in Wenatchee scheduled a shutdown to remove an existing air compressor and replace it with a new air compressor. The workers transported the new compressor to the designated location and the plan was to lift the compressor 3.5" onto the concrete wash pad. When the workers lifted the unit using 2x4's to prop the unit onto the wash pad, the unit tipped and fell over. No one was injured but the unit had visible damages. The compressor was not installed and was taken to a machine shop to assess the damages.



What Went Right?

- No one was injured
- Supervisor immediately reported the incident

What Went Wrong?

- The weight of the unit was unknown
- Improper procedure used to lift the unit

Lessons Learned

- Ensure to use proper methods and mechanic means to lift units, equipment, and materials when necessary.
- Know the weight and the design of the equipment to implement a safe material handling plan.
- Have a questioning attitude, stop, re-evaluate the task and improve the process.