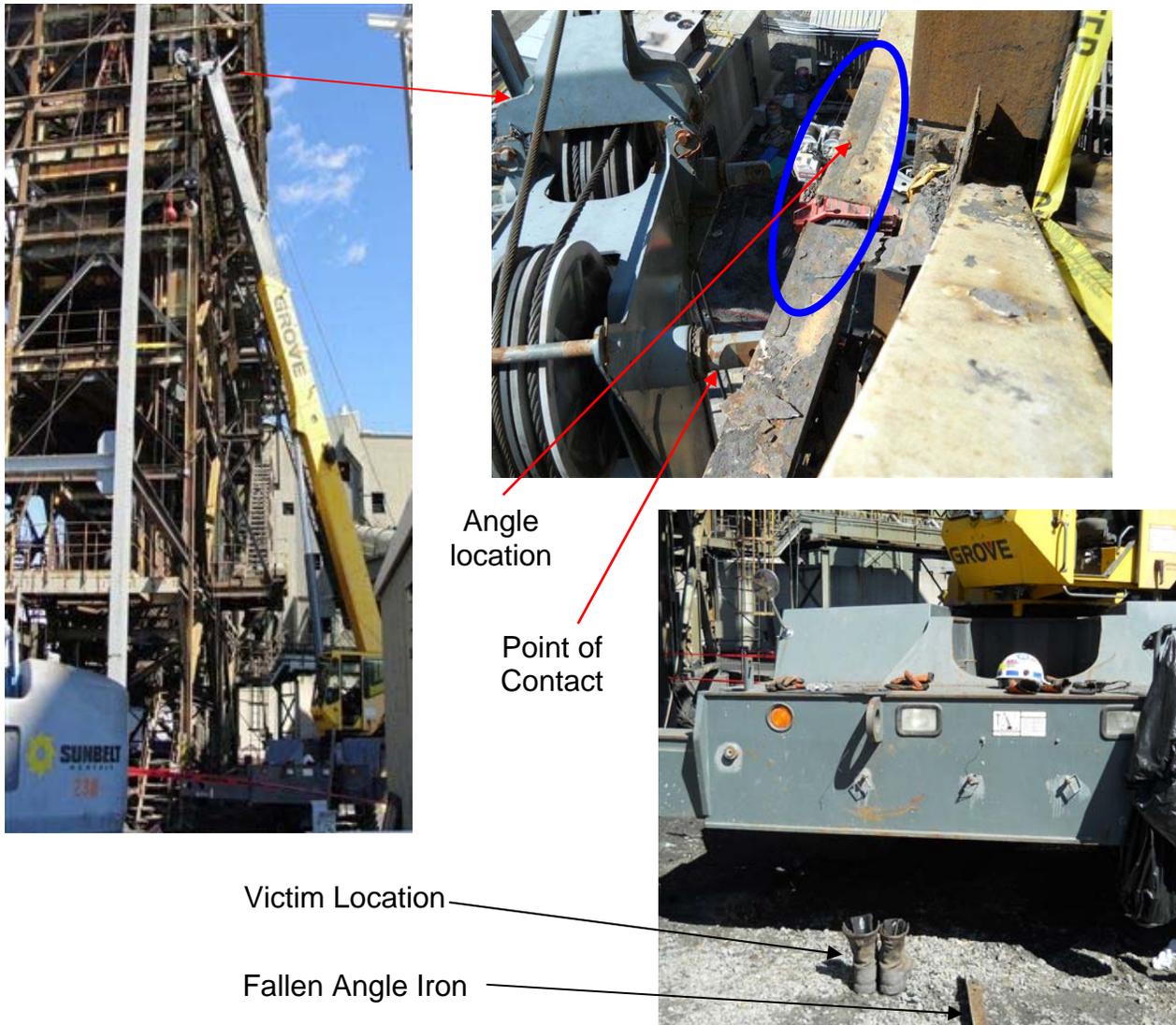


DISTRICT 2 COAL MINE NEAR MISS



On September 19, 2012 an accident occurred at the Bailey Preparation plant, 36-07230. A contractor crane operator was retracting the boom of the crane he was operating when it came in contact with the prep plant structure. It ripped a 2 inch x 2 inch x 42 inch piece of angle loose, falling and hitting the crane, bouncing off, striking the job foreman who was standing beside the crane. He suffered a broken clavicle as a result of the accident.

Best Practices

- Don't allow booms or loads to touch structures.
- Always use a signalman if the operator can't see the load, loading landing area, path of travel, or when the load is far enough away from the operator to make judgment difficult.
- Respond to standard crane signals from only one person, but a "STOP" signal from anyone.
- Do not distract the crane operator while he is operating the crane.
- Ensure that equipment operators are properly trained.
- NEVER permit people to be in locations where they can contact the crane or load while in operation.
- Ensure that equipment operators communicate with other workers who work in close proximity to their equipment.