

# Overhead Hazards

Whether working in a busy downtown area or a rural one, contractors' top overhead exposures are power lines, crane and hoisting operations, material handling, and dropped objects. The potential for a work injury, business interruption, or loss in services could result in a significant claim. In the case of overhead power lines, there should be concern not only for distance from live power lines but also for protecting the base structure, guy-wires, and support posts to keep the pole vertical. Clearance from live wires varies by voltage, and the appropriate OSHA regulations should be consulted for minimum clearance distances.

Utilize physical barricades and signage to denote safe working distances from overhead power. Spotters can also assist equipment operators with avoiding objects in blind spots, elevation changes, corners, and objects in the path of travel.

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For more information and additional risk management and prevention tools, visit: [fwcruminsurance.com](https://www.fwcruminsurance.com)