

## **Ashland – Columbus, Ohio**

The Ashland-Atlas St., Columbus, OH facility has made a commitment to find potential hazards throughout the facility and make improvements to abate those hazards. The leadership at the Ashland-Atlas St., Columbus, OH facility took a proactive approach to potential employee safety issues. Historically, bulk bags of raw material were lifted into position with an overhead hoist. Once in position the operator would untie the bottom chute of the bag and guide it into the reactor. This practice put operator's hands in a vulnerable position between a 500 kg load and the reactor. Thus, leaving operators hands and arms susceptible to crushing from a potential hoist failure. A project to mitigate this risk was brainstormed, agreed upon and engineered. A structure was built around the reactor that acts as a cradle and platform for the bulk bags which eliminates the risk to the operator's hands and arms. Thanks to efforts like this our facility has now been injury free for over three years.