



EME COURT

# **IS YOUR** GYMNASIUM SAFE

## **Basketball Backstop Failures**

#### Most Overlooked Piece of Equipment in Regards to Safety

- Movable portion of a backstop system can weigh close to 1000 lbs, and is suspended 20 to 30 feet above the court floor
- Thousands of pounds of force on impact when systems fails
- Cause injury to people below, damage to backstop structure and facility

#### What Causes Failures?

- Winch internal gear failure Beam clamp weld failure
- Loose Cable Clamps - Loose Bolts
- Limit switches not functioning properly Loose Beam Clamps
- Cable wear causing pulley system to malfunction

### Preventing Failures

- Fully Automatic Safety Strap acts as a backup in case the cable ever failed
- Routine Inspections and Equipment Preventative Maintenance:
  - · Install safety strap or inspect existing safety strap belt for any signs of wear
  - · Perform pull test on safety strap belt to test the units function
  - · Inspect and tighten bolts where needed
  - · Check all moving parts for signs of wear and replace as needed
  - Lubricate moving parts where required
  - Replace winch cable every two years or immediately if visible wear
  - Inspect and adjust limit switches

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