

CSI Country Wide Case Study Safety Strategy Discussion

Construction Safety Investigator



Instructions

The objective of this tool is to provide field supervisors with information to proactively engage workers and discuss safety related concerns that they may encounter. Safety discussions should not be limited to the subject above and should pertain to the activities that workers will be involved in that may have the potential for safety related exposures.

Case Day:

November 2009

Accident Type:

Hand and Power Tool Accident - Portable Saw

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29 CFR 1926.21(b)(2), 29 CFR 1926 - Subpart I

Case:

A worker suffered serious lacerations due to the accidental activation of a portable saw.

Accident Detail:

Two workers at a tank treatment plant were working from a scissor lift. To perform their task, they were using a porta-band saw. One of the workers needed the saw and asked the other to hand it to him. During the hand-off, one worker lost grip of the tool and it began to slip from his grasp. In addition, the other worker receiving the saw could not get a good grip on it.

In an attempt to catch and get a better grip on the saw, the worker receiving the saw attempted to hoist it to his shoulder. When he did so, his finger contacted the saw's trigger, turning it on and causing the blade to rotate. The worker's glove and hand were then pulled into and against rear guide and blade, which then cut through his hand and two fingers.

Reconstructive Safety Evaluation:

- What are some of the possible causes of the accident being discussed?
- What actions could have been taken that might have prevented this accident from occurring?

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