

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:

May 2007

Accident Type:

Ladder Accident - Not Secured

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.21(b)(2), 1926.1053(b), 1926.1060

Case:

A carpenter was seriously injured when he fell approximately 30 feet from a ladder.

Accident Detail:

The employee was a carpenter working for a contractor hired to renovate an apartment building's balconies. At the time of the incident, the carpenter was working from an extension ladder that had been fully extended so he could reach a balcony located on the third floor of the apartment building.

While working from the ladder and performing his task, the ladder began to slide sideways along the building. The carpenter tried to steady the ladder but could not and the ladder fell to the ground below.

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?

Accident Scene Conclusion:

The investigation revealed that the employee failed to tie off the extension ladder once it was raised to the working height and it was set up on an uneven surface. It was also discovered that the employer failed to properly train his employees to recognize and avoid hazards associated with ladders.

