

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:

September 2009

Accident Type:

Aerial Lift Accident – Lift toppled over

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.20(b)(4), 1926.453, 1926.454, Aerial Lift Manufacturer's Operating Instructions

Case:

A construction worker and pedestrian were seriously injured when an Aerial lift toppled over into a commercial retail outlet parking lot.

Accident Detail:

The Aerial lift was being used by a contractor who was hired to perform restoration work to the facade of a two story retail store. The store was damaged during recent storms. The Aerial lift was located on the sidewalk in front of the store.

The worker had finished repairing a section of the upper exterior façade and was attempting to move the lift to the other side of the store front when he drove it too close to the curb, causing the front tire to slide off. The lift tipped and fell over into the parking lot, striking and injuring a woman walking across the parking lot and injuring the worker who was trapped in the lift's basket.

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 worker was not properly trained in the use of the Aerial lift but rather only had a quick introduction to the lift's controls. The worker attempted to relocate the lift with the boom extended which caused it to become unstable and limited the operator's view when moving it.

