

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:

August 2007

Accident Type:

Fall Accident - Residential Roofing

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29CFR 1926.21(b)(2), 29CFR 1926.500, 29CFR 1926.501(b)(13)

****Note**** OSHA Instruction STD 3.1, Interim Fall Protection Compliance Guidelines for Residential Construction, which was in effect at the time of this accident was rescinded effective June 16, 2011.

Case:

Roofer fell from the unprotected roof edge of a residential home, which was under construction.

Accident Detail:

There were four to six members on the work crew. The sequence of events leading to the fall is unknown. It is alleged that the decedent fell from the roof at the back of the house. The decedent's employer was on the "other side of the roof when the decedent fell three stories and landed on packed dirt.

Although the details of the accident are unknown, working on sloped roofs is dangerous, and employers and employees should be cognizant of the hazards related to the tasks being performed so the work can be completed safely.

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 decedent was not wearing or using personal fall protection equipment
- The cause of death as stated on the death certificate was multiple trauma. The death certificate stated that "Other Significant Conditions" contributing to the death, but not resulting in the underlying cause, were drug and alcohol abuse

Preventive Safety Measures Include:

- Complete a Job Safety Task Analysis that includes scope of work, anticipated exposures and safety equipment and/or procedures needed to ensure the task is completed successfully and safely.
- Conduct a pre-work meeting to review the JSTA and ensure workers understand the task to be completed, any safe working procedures and have the necessary safety equipment.
- Roofers and employers conducting work activities on a roof should utilize fall protection measures when required.
- As of June 16, 2011, OSHA Instruction STD 3.1, Interim Fall Protection Compliance Guidelines for Residential Construction was rescinded now requiring Residential Construction operations to comply with 29 CFR 1926.500.
- The controlling/managing construction firm should monitor the work activities for safety of those working for them regardless of the contract arrangements.
- Employers should implement a drug and alcohol free workplace policy and program for all employees including, but not limited to, pre-employment and random testing in addition to reasonable suspicion and post accident.

Attendance Roster

Reference: This case was reported in the NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program.



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