

CSI Country Wide Case Study Safety Strategy Discussion

Construction Safety Investigator

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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:

October 2009

Accident Type:

Caught Between Accident - Dump Truck

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.21(b)(2), 1926.601(b) (10), (11)

Case:

A truck driver was killed when the raised dump body of the truck he was driving fell, crushing him between the dump body and frame of the vehicle

Accident Detail:

The victim had just dumped his load of material along side an embankment being constructed as part of a new roadway project. Once the dump body was raised fully and the load had been dumped, the driver realized the mechanism used to raise and lower the dump body had apparently gotten stuck.

The driver then attempted to repair the issue himself. He began working underneath the raised dump body when it suddenly fell on top of him, crushing him between the dump body and frame of the truck.

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 victim may have disconnected the hydraulic lines connected to the truck's dump body raising mechanism just before the accident occurred. He did not call for assistance and prior to working on the truck he did not secure the dump body to prevent it from accidentally lowering while repairs were taking place.

Preventive Safety Measures Include:

- Workers should be trained in the hazards of the work they are to perform, the personal protective equipment and safe work procedures necessary to perform their assigned tasks.
- Drivers of vehicles should be instructed not to attempt vehicles repairs on their own. They should contact their maintenance dept. for assistance and direction.
- Ensure vehicles with dump bodies are equipped with a positive means of support, permanently attached, and capable of being locked in position to prevent accidental lowering of the body, while maintenance or repairs are taking place.

Attendance Roster

Reference: This case is fictitious, and any resemblance to any persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental. However, the type of accident described in this case summary happens all too often on construction sites

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