

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:

Unknown

Accident Type:

Tilt Up Construction Accident - Unsecured Wall Panel

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.21(b)(2), 29 CFR 1926.704(a)

Case:

Three construction workers were killed and others injured when a 23' high, 20' wide, 40,000-pound concrete wall panel fell to the ground.

Accident Detail:

The wall panel was one of many making up the exterior wall of a box-type, tilt-up structure. The contractor fabricated the wall panels on-site horizontally and "tilted" them up to vertical on their footings and then temporary braces were installed to support them.

Later in the day, seven workers eating lunch in the shade of the wall were not notified that the braces were about to be removed. After the braces were removed, the wall panel, lacking permanent connections, was free standing, supported only by alignment shims. As a result, the panel began to fall. When the panel fell, two workers escaped, two were grazed and slightly injured but three men were unable to escape and were killed instantly.

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?

