

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:

June 24, 2002

Accident Type:

Equipment Maintenance - Caught Between Accident

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29 CFR 1926.21 (b)(2), Equipment Operator's Manual

Case:

A 21 year-old dump-truck driver died after being caught between the frame and dump body of an off-road dump truck while performing routine lubrication.

Accident Detail:

The site of the incident was a landfill where a new cell for refuse disposal was being constructed by an excavation company. Five drivers, including the victim, were assigned to operate off-road trucks and spent the day of the incident hauling earth from the excavation site to another area of the landfill.

Near the end of the shift, the victim and two other dump-truck operators drove to the service area to grease their trucks as the excavator operator was not yet ready to load their trucks. After the victim's coworkers finished lubricating their trucks, they drove their trucks out of the service area.

When the foreman had finished (approximately 7 p.m.), he drove and encountered a truck in the service area. Stopping to investigate, he discovered its engine running and heard the air compressor but did not hear the usual clicking sounds of the grease gun. He found the victim caught face down between the truck frame and dump body near a grease fitting located toward the cab end of the frame.

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?

