

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 2006

Accident Type:

Struck By Accident - Caught Between

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29 CFR 1926.601(b)(14)

Case:

A laborer assigned to clean a retaining wall died from injuries as a result of being struck by and caught between a water truck and the retaining wall being cleaned.

Accident Detail:

A 38-year-old laborer working for an excavation contractor was asked by his employer to clean a retaining wall. A company-owned water truck was used for this purpose.

The water truck was driven by the employer to the wall location and positioned facing down hill, with the parking brake applied. To engage the water pump, the manual transmission was placed into neutral, the PTO engaged and the truck wheels turned inward toward the wall.

The laborer began to clean the wall, starting from uphill working downward toward the truck's position. After the laborer had cleaned approximately 150 feet of the wall, the truck began to move at approximately 5 mph down the hill and inward toward the wall and laborer. The laborer, still cleaning, was facing the wall and unaware of the approaching truck. When the employer noticed what was occurring, he tried to warn the laborer, who turned around and froze in position. The laborer was then struck and pinned between the retaining wall and water 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?

