# 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:**

November 2009

## **Accident Type:**

Fall Accident - Unsecured Platform

### Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.21(b)(2), 1926.501(a)(2), 1926.501(b)(1), (b)(6), 1926.502(d), 1926.503(c), (c)(1), (2), (3)

#### Case:

A construction worker was killed when a platform he was standing on tipped and he fell to a lower level.

### **Accident Detail:**

The worker was employed by a contractor hired to install new catwalks in an energy facility. The catwalk sections were installed and secured as they were placed.

While installing a new piece of catwalk at the site, the worker had placed a new section down but failed to secure it in place. As he continued to work, he stepped on the unsecured section of the catwalk, which caused it to tip.

The worker tried to regain his balance but could not, falling nearly 40 feet to the level below.

#### **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?

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#### **Accident Scene Conclusion:**

The investigation revealed that a fall protection plan was in place and workers were provided with the appropriate equipment to wear and were trained in how and when to use it. It was determined that for some reason, at the time of the accident, the worker who was wearing his safety harness, did not tie off to the fall protection system in place.

#### **Preventive Safety Measures Include:**

- All operations are preplanned using a Job Safety Task Analysis (JSTA) to ensure potential safety hazards associated with an
  operation are identified and appropriate steps are taken to eliminate or control them.
- · Workers need to be instructed that they are responsible to work safely and utilize PFAS and PPE at all times.
- Every worker exposed to falls and provided PFAS must be trained in the use of the PFAS and the fall hazards associated with their activity. The training must be documented to verify completion.
- Workers must be reminded that if they observe a fellow worker exposed to falls or other hazards without that person utilizing proper PFAS or PPE, stop the worker and remind them of what they are doing wrong. "if you see something, say something."
- Hold people accountable for failure to comply with safety requirements and procedures.

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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