

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 2008

Accident Type:

Elevated Work Platform Accident - Forklift Attachment

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.21(b)(2), Equipment Mfr. Safe Operating Instructions and OSHA Standard Interpretation Letter dated 11/27/2001 - Applicable standards to lifting personnel on a platform supported by a rough-terrain forklift

Case:

A construction worker was killed when the forklift from which he was working tipped over.

Accident Detail:

The worker (deceased) was working on the exterior of a new building from a manufactured work platform attachment, designed for and mounted to the forks of a rough terrain forklift. At the time of the incident, he was working at a height of approximately 35 feet.

The forklift was positioned at the building's face with the work platform attachment directly

up against the structure. The worker had finished what was needed at that location, so the forklift operator backed up the machine and began to reposition it in another location against the same building.

As he maneuvered the machine, he drove over a soft sandy spot which caused the lift to sink under that tire and ultimately tip over. The worker was killed when he fell out of the work platform and was crushed by the forklift.

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?

