CSI Country Wide Case Study Safety Strategy Discussion

Construction Safety Investigator

Instructions

CHUBB

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:

2008

Accident Type: Fall Accident - From Telescopic Boom Lift

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include: 1926.21(b)(2), 1910.67(c)(2)(i), 1926.502(a)(1), 1926.503(a)(1)

Case:

A 54 year-old male roofer/ job foreman died when he fell from a telescopic boom lift.

Accident Detail:

In the morning, the deceased and two roofers were installing flashing on the roof of a house. The crew on the roof needed red rosin underlayment (paper) which was in a pickup truck.

Using the telescopic boom lift, the foreman, who was not wearing a personal fall arrest system and not tied off, descended to the ground to retrieve the red rosin paper from the pickup truck. He retrieved the paper and returned to the telescopic boom lift.

He began his ascent in the telescopic boom lift with the red rosin paper, but was not wearing a personal fall arrest system, or tied off. It is not known if the access gate to the bucket of the telescopic boom lift was open or closed. When he reached a height of approximately 10 feet, he fell out of the telescopic boom lift platform to the ground.

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?

Accident Scene Conclusion:

The investigation indicated that it was a winter morning with temperatures ranging from 17 to 37 degrees Fahrenheit and It is unclear if the access gate of the telescopic boom lift was open or closed at the time of the incident or if the floor was slippery due to cold weather conditions.

It was noted that the deceased was not wearing a personal fall arrest system nor was he tied off to the boom of the telescopic boom lift.

Preventive Safety Measures Include:

- Employers provide training on personal fall protection and have a written safety policy outlining safety practices and procedures.
- Employers train employees how to recognize telescopic boom equipment malfunctions and to immediately cease use.
- When using mobile equipment, operators should perform walk-around inspections, and check and verify maintenance records before each use.
- Employers should instruct employees to cease use of telescopic boom lift equipment if it is involved in an injury until the telescopic boom lift has been thoroughly inspected for malfunctions by qualified personnel.

Attendance Roster

Reference: This case was reported in the NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program, Report #08KY007.

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