

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:

May 2010

Accident Type:

Quarry Accident - Crushed By Falling Rock

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.21(b)(2), 29 CFR 1910.147, Aerial Lift Manufacture's Operating Manual

Case:

A 30-year-old equipment operator was killed when she was crushed during quarry operations.

Accident Detail:

The operator worked in a quarry running an excavator, loading rock into dump trucks that transport the material to near-by crushing operations. The operator had loaded a number of trucks prior to the incident occurring. At the time of the incident, the dump truck had driven away and the operator was alone at the location.

Since there were no witnesses to the incident, it is assumed, that the operator had begun to pre-load the bucket awaiting the next truck to arrive. As she maneuvered the excavator into the rock pile and began to elevate and remove the loaded bucket, the removal of the rock caused the rock pile to shift and an adjacent wall to crumble. The pile of rock and wall face toppled onto the cab of the excavator, crushing it and the operator inside.

The operator was pronounced dead at the scene.

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?

