

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:

February 27, 2002

Accident Type:

Work Zone Accident – Struck By

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29 CFR 1926.21 (b) (2), California Code of Regulations, Vol. 9, Title 8, Sections 1509 & 1598 [Heading Here](#)

Case:

A 31-year-old construction worker was struck and killed by an oncoming vehicle that traveling at an estimated speed of 62-80 mph.

Accident Detail:

The worker was performing a task with a coworker to remove a concrete drain cover. They planned to break it into small pieces with sledgehammers. The drain cover was located at the beginning of a transition road but behind the protective concrete barrier.

The two workers drove to the work area. While attempting to break the drain cover with the sledgehammers, the victim made a comment that they had the wrong tools to do the job. The victim wanted to use a jackhammer instead of a sledgehammer. The coworker told the victim he would finish the job himself.

The victim dropped his sledgehammer into the dirt, picked up a shovel and walked away. The coworker, not aware of where the victim was going, went back to work and finished the job.

Witnesses to the incident stated they saw the victim, wearing an orange reflective vest and hard hat, jump over the protective concrete barrier and onto the transition ramp and run right in front of the vehicle that struck him.

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?

