# 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:

CHUBB

Unknown

## **Accident Type:**

Confined Space Accident

# Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29 CFR 1926.21(b)(2), 29 CFR 1926.21(b)(6)(i) and (b)(6)(ii), 29 CFR 1926.103(a)(1) and 1910.134

#### Case:

A worker died as a result of asphyxiation when he entered into a manhole to perform his task.

# **Accident Detail:**

In order for a worker to perform his task, he needed to access a 21-foot deep manhole. To provide a means to access the interior of the manhole, a chain was looped and attached to a hoist line, which the worker sat in and was then lowered into the manhole.

The worker was lowered approximately 17 feet into the manhole when twenty seconds later he started gasping for air and fell from the chain seat face down into the accumulated water at the bottom of the manhole.

# **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 revealed that the employer failed to instruct the employees to recognize and avoid unsafe conditions associated with their work environment. The employees were not instructed on hazards involved in entering confined or enclosed spaces and the workers were not required to use appropriate respiratory protection.

## **Preventive Safety Measures Include:**

- Employees are instructed how to recognize and avoid unsafe conditions associated with their work environment.
- Employees are instructed on hazards involved in entering confined or enclosed spaces to include air sampling and monitoring, emergency rescue, fall protection and appropriate entry and exit.
- Workers are properly trained in and required to use appropriate respiratory protection.
- 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

Attendance Roster		

Reference: This case was reported in OSHA Fatal Facts Accident Summary #39.

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