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:

Powder-Actuated Tool Accident -

Struck By

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:

29 CFR 1926.302(e)(l), 29 CFR 1926.302(e)(8), 29 CFR 1926.302(e)(12)

Case:

A worker involved in remodeling a wall was killed when he was struck by a nail fired from a powder-actuated tool.

Accident Detail:

Two employees were involved in remodeling construction and were building a wall at the time of the accident.

One of the workers was utilizing a powder-actuated tool while attempting to anchor plywood to a $2" \times 4"$ stud. The worker fired the tool. The nail fired from the tool penetrated the stud and the plywood partition prior to striking the victim who was on the other side of the wall.

The worker was killed when he was struck by a nail fired from the powder-actuated tool.

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 had the employees been trained in the use of powder-actuated tools and had precautions been taken to prevent the nail from passing through the wall, the accident probably would not have occurred.

Preventive Safety Measures Include:

- Always perform a job hazard analysis prior to commencing any new operation. This will enable the crew to review
 the tasks, ensure proper training has been completed, have appropriate safety equipment on hand and determine safe
 work procedures.
- Employees using powder-actuated tools must be trained in the operation of the particular tool.
- Driving into materials easily penetrated must be avoided unless materials are backed by a substance that will
 prevent the nail from passing completely through and creating a flying missile hazard on the other side.
- · Operators and assistants using powder-actuated tools must be safeguarded with eye protection.

Attendance Roster			

Reference: This case was reported in OSHA Fatal Facts Accident Summary #48.

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