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:

June 2009

Accident Type:

Work Zone Accident - Struck By

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include

29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.21(b)(2), 1926.601(3), (4), (4)(i), (4)ii), Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

Case:

A 52 year-old roadway worker was killed when he was run over by a truck hauling asphalt.

Accident Detail:

The worker, who was a longtime veteran of highway construction, was involved in construction and maintenance operations alongside a rural highway. At the time of the incident, he was involved in shoulder repair work.

The area in question was prepared for new asphalt and the truck delivering the load was backing into position when the worker was run over. The truck was a large tandem axle vehicle with a dump body.

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 work area was very narrow and confined, the trucks reverse/backup alarm was not functioning properly and when activated, could not be heard above surrounding noises.





Preventive Safety Measures Include:

- 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.
- Workers should be trained in the hazards of the work they are to perform, the personal protective equipment and safe work procedures necessary to perform their assigned tasks.
- Work zones should be properly planned to allow adequate room to perform operations safely and allow for the safe entrance and exit of vehicles, equipment and personnel.
- All vehicles operating in the work zone must have a reverse signal alarm that can be heard above surrounding noises and have a communication/signaling system in place to instruct vehicles to maneuver only when it is safe to do so.

Attendance Roster		

Reference: This case was reported in the NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program, New York Case Report 07NY080.

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