



DISASTER FACTS

ACCIDENT REPORT

U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 17

ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: Fall from height

Weather Conditions: Clear

Type of Company: Steel Erection Contractor

Size of Work Crew: 17

Union or Non-Union: Union

Worksite Inspections Conducted: Yes

Designated Competent Person on Site: Yes

Employer Safety and Health Program: Average

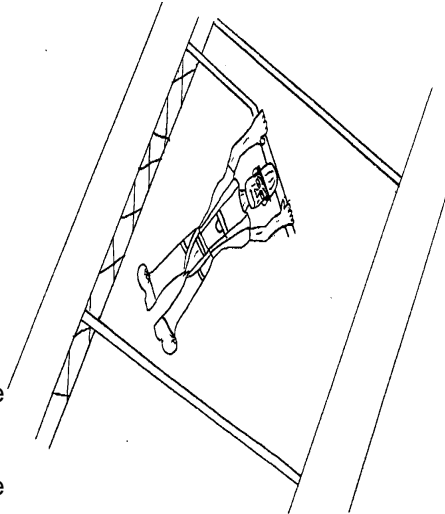
Training and Education for Employees: Average

Craft of Deceased Employee: Iron Worker

Age/Sex: 47 - M

Time on the Job: 2 years

Time at the Task: 4.5 hours



SOURCES OF HELP

◆ OSHA standards, regulations, documents and technical information are available on the Internet World Wide Web at <http://www.OSHA.gov/>. That information also is on CD-ROM, which may be purchased from the Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800 or fax (202) 512-2250, Order No. 729-13-00000-5; cost \$79 annually; \$28 quarterly.

◆ For hard copies of OSHA Construction Standards [29 CFR Part 1926], which include all OSHA job safety and health rules and regulations covering construction, contact Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800, fax (202) 512-2250, order number 869-022-00114-1, \$33.

◆ OSHA-funded free consultation services listed in telephone directories under U.S. Labor Department or under the state government section where states administer their own OSHA programs.

◆ OSHA Safety and Health Training Guidelines for Construction, Volume III (Available from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161; phone (703)487-4650; Order No. PB-239-312/AS, \$25 to help construction employers establish a training program.

◆ Courses in construction safety are offered by the OSHA Training Institute, 1555 Times Drive, Des Plaines, IL 60018, (847) 297-4810, and the Metropolitan Community Colleges Business & Technology Center, 6899 Executive Drive, Kansas City, MO 64120, (816) 482-5210.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

Employee was assigned to the Decking and Bridging crew. The employee was performing bridging work on the upper joist. The employee, according to management interviews, was supposed to have been working out of an aerial lift, but for some reason was not on this day. The employee, according to eyewitness accounts, was attempting to cross from one bar joist, set on five foot centers, to another joist by stepping on to the lower bridging that had already been welded. The employee reached out for the joist but ended up grabbing the upper bridging which bent and the employee fell to his death.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Implement a fall protection program when employees are exposed to a fall hazard of 25 feet or more when engaged in steel erection activities. The fall protection program may include, but is not limited to the use of a safety net system, static line system attached to the elevated iron, retractable lanyards that could be attached

- to anchor points on the structure, or a combination of the listed measures.
2. Implement a training program for employees to recognize the hazards of falling and procedures to follow to minimize these hazards.

Note: This case described was selected as being representative of improper work practices which likely contributed to a fatality from a fall and/or electrocution. The accident prevention recommendations do not necessarily reflect the outcome of the legal aspects of the incident case. Your company or organization is eligible to receive one free copy of this leaflet which you may duplicate and share with your co-workers. To be placed on the distribution list, send your name, title and address to: U.S. Department of Labor - OSHA, 1100 Main, Suite 800, Kansas City, MO 64105, Attn: TECFAP, or e-mail to dearing-cynthia@dol.gov.