

## ACCIDENT REPORT

# DISASTER FACTS



• U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 67

### ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: ..... Fall  
Weather Conditions: ..... Sunny  
Type of Operation: ..... Construction  
Size of Work Crew: ..... 2  
Union or Non-Union: ..... Non-Union  
Worksite inspections conducted: ..... No  
Competent safety monitoring on-site: ..... No  
Safety and Health Program in effect: ..... Yes (but inadequate)  
Training and education for employees: ..... No fall protection training  
Craft of employees: ..... Roofer  
Age/Sex: ..... 22/Male  
Experience at this type of work: ..... 1 day  
Time on project: ..... about 4 hours



### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

Company was contracted to install "heat tape" in the gutters of the commercial building ( 9 foot eave to ground). During the morning the workers (a roofer and a foreman) had both been on the roof cleaning leaves and installing the tape without any type of fall protection. At lunch, the workers went back to the shop to get longer ladders. They returned and the foreman told the victim to measure out the tape and make the appropriate bends to the tape. The victim then accessed the roof and fell to the ground. The victim was transported to the local hospital and then was transported to a larger regional hospital where he later died from the injuries sustained in the fall.

### ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Protect all employees who are working at elevation, by either a guardrail system, personal fall arrest system, safety net system, warning line system, safety monitoring system, controlled access zone or other protection system.
2. Ensure employees are properly trained on the use and operation of the previously mentioned systems, and are aware of hazardous conditions on the work site
3. Make provisions prior to the commencement of the job to provide fall protection..

### 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 regulation 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.



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 [cynthia.dearing@osha.gov](mailto:cynthia.dearing@osha.gov).