

## ACCIDENT REPORT

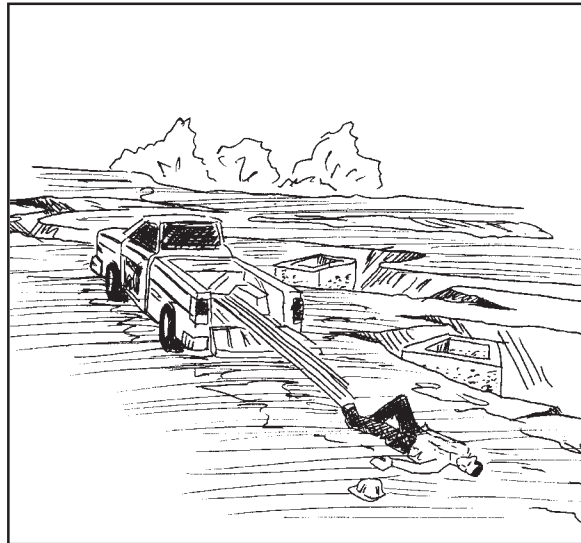
# DISASTER FACTS



• U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 74

### ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: ..... Fall  
Weather Conditions: ..... No precipitation,  
no significant weather  
Type of Operation: ..... Road construction  
Size of Work Crew: ..... 3  
Union or Non-Union: ..... Non-Union  
Worksite inspection conducted: ..... No  
Competent safety monitoring on-site: ..... No  
Safety and Health Program in effect: ..... Yes  
Training and education for employees: ..... The company uses an  
on-the-job training philosophy for this type of job.  
Company does not have a training and education program.  
Craft of deceased employee: ..... Laborer  
Age/Sex: ..... 32/Male  
Time on job: ..... 47 months  
Time at task: ..... 1 day



### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

Two employees were in the process of transporting concrete reinforcing steel bars (rebar) approximately 150 feet across a construction site. The employees were using a privately owned vehicle due to the foreman being gone in the company truck. The company was in the process of installing storm sewer inlets on a street which had been poured the previous fall (2001). Earlier in the day, the employees excavated the areas for the underground inlet vaults (3 total). As part of the process, they pour a concrete floor at the base of a rectangle trench which allows water to pass from the inlet to an underground pipe. The rebar is used to reinforce the concrete floor and walls in the inlet vault. The employees loaded an unspecified amount of rebar into the back of one employees truck to move to the second and third inlets at the site. The rebar had to be moved approximately 250 feet from the location where it was stored. On the first trip, one employee was driving and the other rode in the cargo area. On the second trip, the employees went to the first excavation to pick up a gas powered steel cutting saw. The employee in the cargo area sat on the lowered tailgate of the truck (1/2 ton) and was going to ride approximately 200 feet. The employee riding on the tailgate fell from the tailgate and was injured and later died of complications related to his injuries.

### ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Instruct employees in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to their work environment, specifically ensure that employees were trained on seatbelt usage and safe vehicle usage.
2. Ensure the use of seatbelts in all vehicles used for company business.

### 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).