3 Fall through Skylight – Inspection #1204459

A **68 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he fell through a roof skylight to the ground below. On the day of the incident, the victim was assisting in the repair of a leaky metal roof at the building where he worked as a printing technician. The fiberglass skylights on the roof measured approximately 2 feet wide by 8 feet long, and were flush with the metal roof. As the victim and co-workers checked roofing screws for leaks, the victim walked across the roof to get a caulking gun, and inadvertently stepped onto one of the fiberglass skylights falling 14 feet to the concrete floor. It was determined during the inspection that fall protection or prevention devices were not used to protect employees from a fall.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1a

29 CFR 1910.23(a)(4)	Every skylight floor opening and hole was not guarded by a standard skylight screen or a fixed standard railing on all exposed sides.
	In that the employer did not have a standard skylight screen or a fixed standard railing guarding the northwest skylight in the Carpet Room's metal roof, exposing three employees to a fall hazard of approximately 14 feet to the concrete floor below.

Citation 1 Item 1b

29 CFR 1910.23(c)(1)	Every open sided floor or platform 4 feet or more above adjacent floor or ground level was not guarded by a standard railing (or the equivalent as specified in paragraph (e)(3) of this section) on all open sides except where there is entrance to a ramp, stairway, or fixed ladder.
	In that three employees repairing leaks on a low slope roof (approximately 4:12 pitch), with the eave at the rear of the building approximately 10 feet above the ground level, and were not protected from falling off of the rood by a standard railing or any other fall protection device or system while at the edge of the low slope roof.

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Citation 1 Item 2

29 CFR 1910.178(l)(1)(i)	The employer did not ensure that each powered industrial truck operator is competent to operate a powered industrial truck safely, as demonstrated by successful completion of the training and evaluation specified in this paragraph (l).
	In that the employer did not implement a powered industrial truck (PIT) operator training program.

Citation 2 Item 1a

29 CFR 1910.1200(e)(1)	The employer did not develop, implement, and/or maintain at the workplace a written hazard communication program which describes how the criterial specified in 29 CFR 1910.1200(f), (g), and (h) will be met.
	In that the employer did not have a written Hazard Communication program for the materials being used by the employees, such as propane.

Citation 2 Item 1b

29 CFR 1910.1200(g)(1)	Employers did not have a safety data sheet in the workplace for each hazardous chemical which they use.
	In that the employer did not have a safety data sheet for the materials being used by employees, such as propane.

Citation 2 Item 1b

29 CFR 1910.1200(h)(1)	Employees were not provided effective information and training on hazardous chemicals in their work area at the time of their initial assignment and whenever a new hazard that the employees had not been previously trained about was introduced into their work area.
	In that the employer did not provide the employees with information and training for the materials being used by employees, such as propane.

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Citation 2 Item 2

TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.05(1)(a)1

Within (8) hours after the death of any employee as a result of a work-related incident, the employer did not report the fatality to the TOSHA Division of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

In that the employer did not notify the nearest Area Office of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health, or to the TOSHA toll-free central telephone number (1-800-249-8510), within eight hours after an incident that resulted in a work-related fatality.



Photo 1 of 1 – Fiberglass skylight panel and the roofing tin cover.