

## **5 Struck by falling material – Inspection #1294434**

A **43 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he was struck by a falling bundle of axles. The victim, an over-the-road truck driver, had delivered a load of tires and axles to a manufacturing facility on the day of the incident. While in the process of unstrapping the load, a bundle of idler axles fell from the top tier of the trailer and struck the victim. The victim had worked for the company for more than 20 years and routinely made deliveries and pick-ups from the incident location. The load being delivered was routinely shipped and was strapped to the trailer utilizing a standard method. The investigation revealed that the victim arrived at the unloading area and began removing all the straps and chains from the load, leaving the load unstable. Next, he remained standing next to the load and began rolling up two synthetic web straps. He had secured/stored one strap on the trailer and was in the process of securing the second strap when the bundle of idler axles fell from the trailer and fatally struck him. It was determined that the company failed to ensure employees are protected from falling material when unstrapping bundles of axles from a cargo trailer. The company had not developed written procedures for safely unstrapping cargo nor trained all potentially exposed employees.

### **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 1**

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| TCA 50-3-105(1) | <p><b>The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees.</b></p> <p>In that one employee was exposed to a struck by hazard when unstrapping bundles of axles from a cargo trailer while preparing for unloading. Among other methods one feasible and acceptable abatement method to correct this hazard is to develop written procedures for safely unstrapping cargo and subsequently conducts training on the procedures for all potentially exposed employees.</p> |
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#### **Citation 1 Item 2**

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| TDLWD Rule<br>0800-01-03-.03(27)(b)1 | <p><b>The log of all recordable work-related injuries and illnesses (OSHA Form 300 or equivalent), was not completed in the detail as required by the rule.</b></p> <p>In that case #1 and #2 section (f) of the 2016 OSHA Form 300 log did not describe the injury and what object/substance caused the injury.</p> |
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**Citation 1 Item 3**

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| <p>TDLWD Rule<br/>0800-01-03-.05(3)(a)2</p> | <p><b>An establishment with 20 or more employees but fewer than 250 employees and classified in an Industry listed in appendix A to 0800-01-03-.05 of this part, did not electronically submit information from OSHA Form 300A Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses for calendar year 2016 to the OSHA Injury Tracking Application.</b></p> <p>In that the employer failed to electronically submit the OSHA Form 300A for calendar year 2016 to the OSHA Injury Tracking Application.</p> |
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Photo 1 of 1 – Shows a trailer loaded with axels and tires using the same tied down methods as the trailer involved in the incident. The load upright supports shown in the photo were not installed on the trailer involved in the incident.