

ACCIDENT REPORT

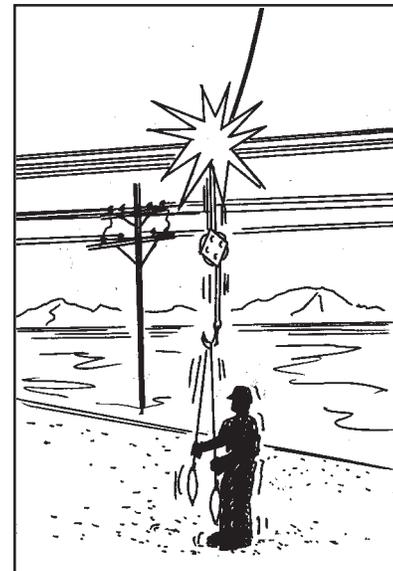
DISASTER FACTS



• U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 56

ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: Contact overhead powerline
Weather Conditions: Overcast, misting, damp
Type of Company: Steel fabrication - Power Equipment
Size of Work Crew: 4
Union or Non-Union: Union
Worksite inspections conducted: No
Designated competent person on-site: Yes
Safety and Health Program in effect: Average
Training and education for employees: None for hazards in work area
Craft of deceased: Boilermaker
Age/Sex: 47/Male
Time on the job: 4 days
Time on project: 15 minutes



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

Employees were in the process of moving structural steel parts using a 60 ton truck crane. The operator of the crane was moving the crane into place, while the victim was holding on to the chokers suspended from the block and tackle to prevent them from swaying back and forth. As the crane was moving into position, a portion of the crane rigging came into contact with an overhead power line. The employee holding the suspended chokers was electrocuted. There were power lines on both sides of the road, and when looking at them, they tend to blend in together and appear to be on the same side of the road.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Equipment shall not be operated within 10 feet of electrical distribution or transmission lines rated at 50kv or below, unless the lines have been de-energized and visibly grounded or insulated barriers have been put in place to prevent physical contact with the lines.
2. When it is difficult for the operator to maintain the desired clearance by visual means, a person shall be designated to observe the clearance of the equipment and give timely warning.
3. All employees are to be trained in the hazards, and applicable standards, associated with the type of work they are performing.

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 dearing-cynthia@dol.gov.