

ACCIDENT REPORT

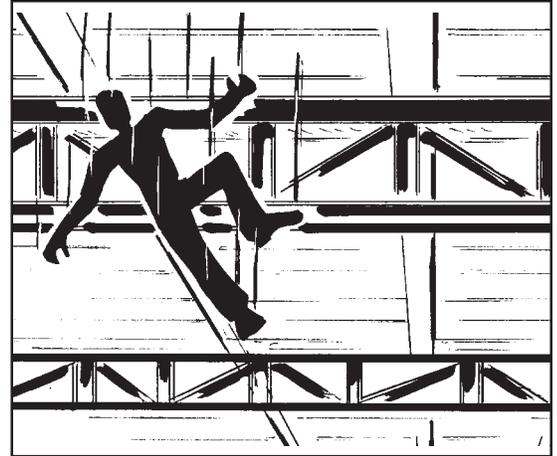
DISASTER FACTS



• U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 50

ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: Fall from elevation
Weather Conditions: Cloudy/Cool
Type of Company: Steel Construction
Size of Work Crew: 6
Union or Non-Union: Union
Competent safety monitoring on-site: No
Safety & Health Program in effect? Yes
Worksite inspections conducted: No
Training and education for employees: Read company manual,
Toolbox talks, OJT
Employee job title: Welder/Ironworker
Age/Sex: 29/Male
Experience: 5-10 years
Time at task: 4 hours



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

Victim was standing on the center girder and had been welding top columns and bar joists to the girders. Victim had been standing in that location on the girder approximately 5 minutes. For unknown reasons the victim fell from the girder approximately 18'6" to the concrete floor below and suffered blunt trauma to the head and chest. The victim was wearing a Double D belt and lanyard but was not tied off at the time of the fall; nor at any time during the day. The other two employees welding on the structural steel had not been tied off either. The company's written rule on fall protection stated that belts and harnesses were to be worn when working above ground level; however, the supervisor stated he was unaware of this policy, and at the job-site he was requiring use of personal fall arrest systems by employees at heights above 25 feet with voluntary use of the systems at heights below 25 feet. The supervisor did not enforce and employees did not voluntarily utilize personal fall arrest systems or available lifts when performing the work to eliminate or minimize the fall hazards.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

Provide and encourage the use of fall protection when welding on structural steel and provide instruction and training to employees on hazard recognition and avoidance of fall hazards.

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

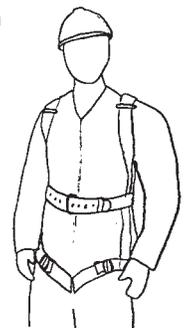
(202) 512-1800, fax (202) 512-2250, order number 869-022-00114-1, \$33.

• 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.