

MNMM Fatal 2007-09

- Fall of Person Accident
- April 18, 2007 (Arkansas)
- Alumina Operation
- Contractor Laborer
- 52 years old
- 10 years experience

Overview

The victim was fatally injured when he fell about 57 feet from a scaffold. He was standing on a horizontal scaffold member passing scaffold materials to a coworker working above him.



Root Causes

- Management policies and procedures were inadequate and failed to ensure that persons could safely erect scaffolds. Floorboards were not maintained at the 10-foot level of the scaffold where persons were directed to perform work.
- Management policies and work procedures failed to ensure that fall protection was properly used by persons working where there was a danger of falling.

Best Practices

- Discuss work procedures; identify all possible hazards; and ensure steps are taken to safely perform the task. (SLAM) Stop, Look, Analyze, and Manage.
- Ensure that floor openings near work areas are covered to protect persons.
- Ensure safety lanyards are securely fastened at all times when workers are positioned at elevated locations.
- Ensure workers are trained and understand the proper use of restraint devices. Provide self retracting lanyard mechanisms when possible.