

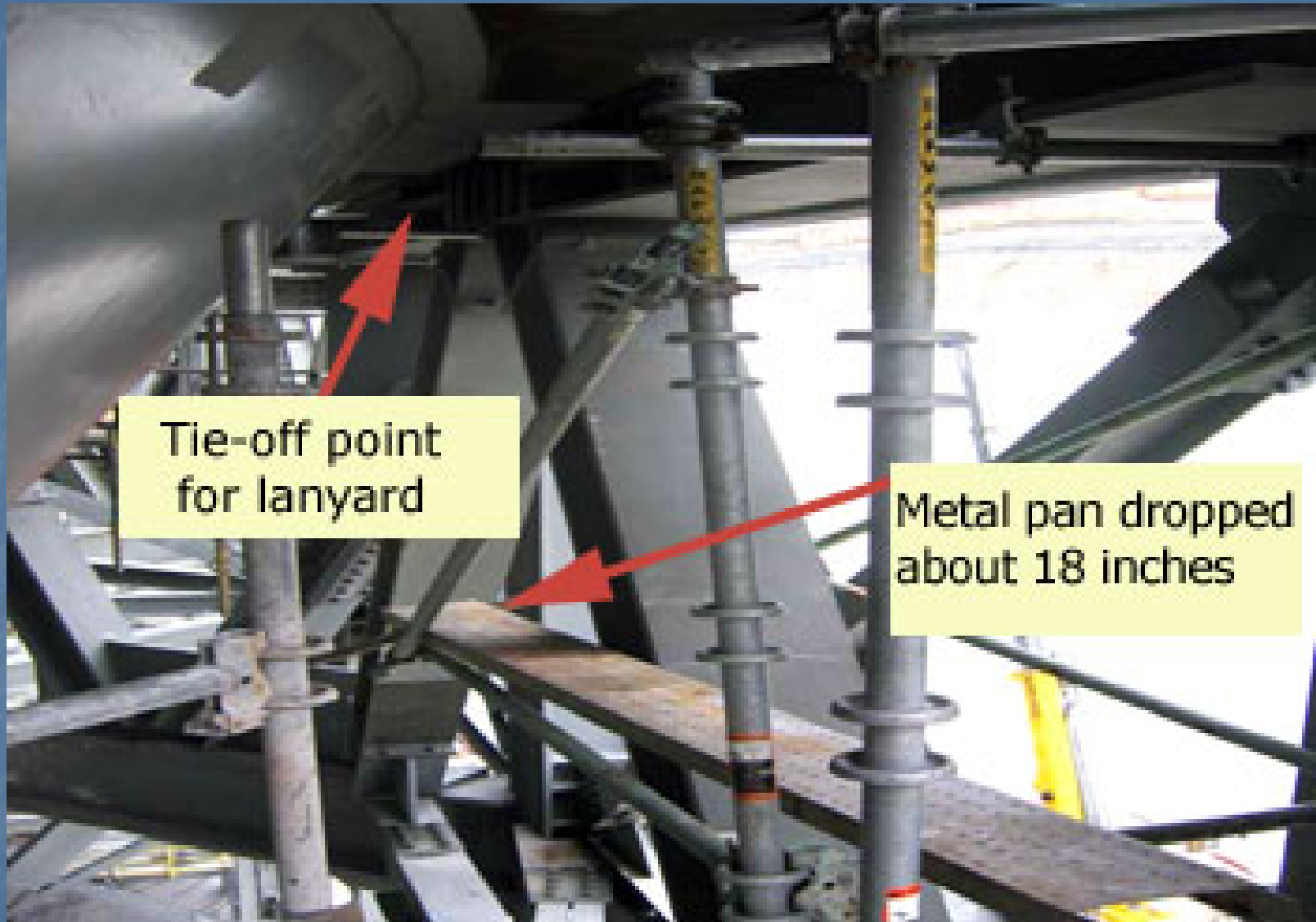
MNMM Fatal 2009-06

- Fall of Person Accident
- April 14, 2009 (Missouri)
- Cement Operation
- Contractor Carpenter
- 38 years old
- 8 years of experience

Overview

The victim was fatally injured when he fell about 75 feet from a scaffold platform he was dismantling. The platform he was standing on shifted unexpectedly causing him to lose his balance. The safety lanyard he was wearing then slipped off the suspension pipe where it was attached.

The accident occurred because contractor management policies and safe work procedures were not followed while persons were dismantling the scaffold platform. The victim continued to work from the platform after removing critical support and tie-off components. These components were typically removed when persons were positioned on the structural steel above the platform and tied-off outside the scaffold platform.



Tie-off point
for lanyard

Metal pan dropped
about 18 inches

Root Causes

- **Root Cause:** Contractor management did not ensure that all established safe operating procedures were followed during scaffold dismantling.
- **Corrective Action:** Contractor management established additional policies to ensure that established safe operating procedures are followed when dismantling scaffolding. Persons performing the task were trained and will be monitored to ensure the procedures are being followed.

- **Root Cause:** Contractor management did not ensure that all persons employed safe tie-off procedures while working where there is a danger of falling.
- **Corrective Action:** Contractor management established additional policies to ensure that safe tie-off procedures are followed while working where there was a danger of falling. Persons working where there is a danger of falling were trained and will be monitored to ensure the procedures are being followed.

Best Practices

- Train persons to recognize the hazards associated with the type of scaffold being used and how to control or minimize those hazards.
- Wear fall protection where there is a danger of falling.
- Where possible anchor fall protection to permanent support structure.
- Follow the manufacturer's procedures for assembly and disassembly of scaffold systems.
- Ensure that scaffolding is properly connected and braced to prevent side sway.
- Prior to using scaffolding, inspect the structure to ensure that it has not been altered.