

MNMM Fatal 2010-04

- Fall of Material Accident
- March 24, 2010 (New York)
- Surface of Salt Operation
- Contract Truck Driver
- 63 years old
- 15 years of experience

Overview

The victim was fatally injured while loading his truck under a 150-ton-capacity salt bin when the bin's supporting structure collapsed and the bin fell onto the cab of the truck. Another person was injured in the accident when the operator's booth that was located on the west side of the structure fell to the ground. The accident occurred because management failed to ensure that adequate inspections to properly evaluate the structure were conducted. Preventative measures were not addressed that would maintain the integrity of the steel supporting structure for the bin.



Root Cause

Root Cause: *Management did not ensure that adequate procedures were in place to properly evaluate and maintain the steel supporting structure for the bin.*

Corrective Action: *Management had consultant engineers conduct detailed evaluations of the existing surface structures to ensure the prompt corrective action of potential safety hazards.*

Best Practices

- Routinely examine metal structures for indications of weakened structural soundness (corrosion, fatigue cracks, bent/buckling beams, braces or columns, loose/missing connectors, broken welds, etc.).
- Keep corrosive material spillage/build-up removed from metal structures.
- Report all areas where indications of structural weakness are found.