

MNM Fatal 2014-16

- Powered Haulage
- July 23, 2014 (Florida)
- Cement Operation
- Contract Truck Driver
- 51 years old
- 30 years of experience

Overview

The victim was killed on July 23, 2014, when he was struck and pinned between his haul truck and a front-end loader. He drove the haul truck to the fly ash dumping point at the materials storage building. The victim exited the haul truck, preparing to untarp the truck's trailer, when the front-end loader backed down a ramp from a nearby hopper and struck and pinned him against the truck.

The accident occurred because management failed to ensure that the operator of the front-end loader maintained control of the loader at all times, specifically while other equipment traveled in the same area. No safe operating procedures had been established to ensure communications between the incoming truck drivers and the front-end loader operators. Additionally, site-specific hazard awareness training had not been provided to the victim regarding the delivery and unloading of the fly ash material.



Root Causes

Root Cause: Management failed to ensure the operator of the front-end loader maintained control of the loader at all times while the loader was in operation, specifically while haul trucks were unloading raw materials at the materials storage building. No safe operating procedures had been established to ensure communications between the incoming truck drivers and the front-end loader operators.

Corrective Action: Management established safe operating procedures for mobile equipment operators and incoming haul truck drivers bringing raw materials to the materials storage building. The procedures include the use of hand held radios for communication between the front-end loader operator and the haul truck drivers. Cameras and sensors will be installed on the front-end loaders. All mobile equipment operators and haul truck drivers were instructed in these safe operating procedures.

Root Cause: Management did not ensure that site-specific hazard awareness training was provided for contract truck drivers, including the victim, delivering raw materials to the plant.

Corrective Action: Management established safe operating procedures for mobile equipment operators and incoming haul truck drivers bringing raw materials to the materials storage building. All haul truck drivers were provided site-specific hazard awareness training which included these safe operating procedures.

Best Practices

- Task train all persons to stay clear of mobile equipment.
- Be aware of the location and traffic patterns of mobile equipment in your work area.
- Before moving mobile equipment, look in the direction of travel and use all mirrors and cameras to ensure no persons are in the intended path.
- Sound the horn to warn persons of intended movement and give them time to move to a safe location.
- Operate mobile equipment at reduced speeds in work areas.
- Ensure that backup alarms and lights on mobile equipment are maintained and operational.
- Remain in your truck when mobile equipment is being operated nearby.
- Communicate with mobile equipment operators and ensure they acknowledge your presence. Stay in the line of sight with mobile equipment operators. Never assume the equipment operator sees you.
- Before operating equipment, always ensure other persons are clear and safely positioned.