

Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series!



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Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series. In today's training we will talk about work zones and the necessary steps you need to take in order to stay safe in them. We will also cover many aspects of work zone jobs so that you know what to expect when you will be required to perform them.



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A work zone is classified as any area where roadwork is being done and may involve lane closures, detours, and moving equipment. This zone can cover parts of the road as well as property on the sides of the road. There are many hazards that present themselves within work zones, including vehicle accidents, falling objects, electrical exposure, and many others.



Consider the following story. Employee #1 was a concrete pump truck operator working on a construction site on the side of a highway. It was late when he finished unloading the concrete, but he wasn't wearing a fluorescent vest. Regardless, Employee #1 stopped the truck and moved behind it to clean the pump. Suddenly, the brakes disengaged and pushed him into the road just as a car was driving by the work zone. The vehicle hit him, and he died instantly.



Employee #1 obviously forgot basic safety measures, like wearing his work vest. He also got behind a large vehicle without properly engaging the brake, and he neglected the emergency brake that was available in his vehicle. Finally, the other obvious mistake was getting too close to an open road where his work vehicle should never have been.



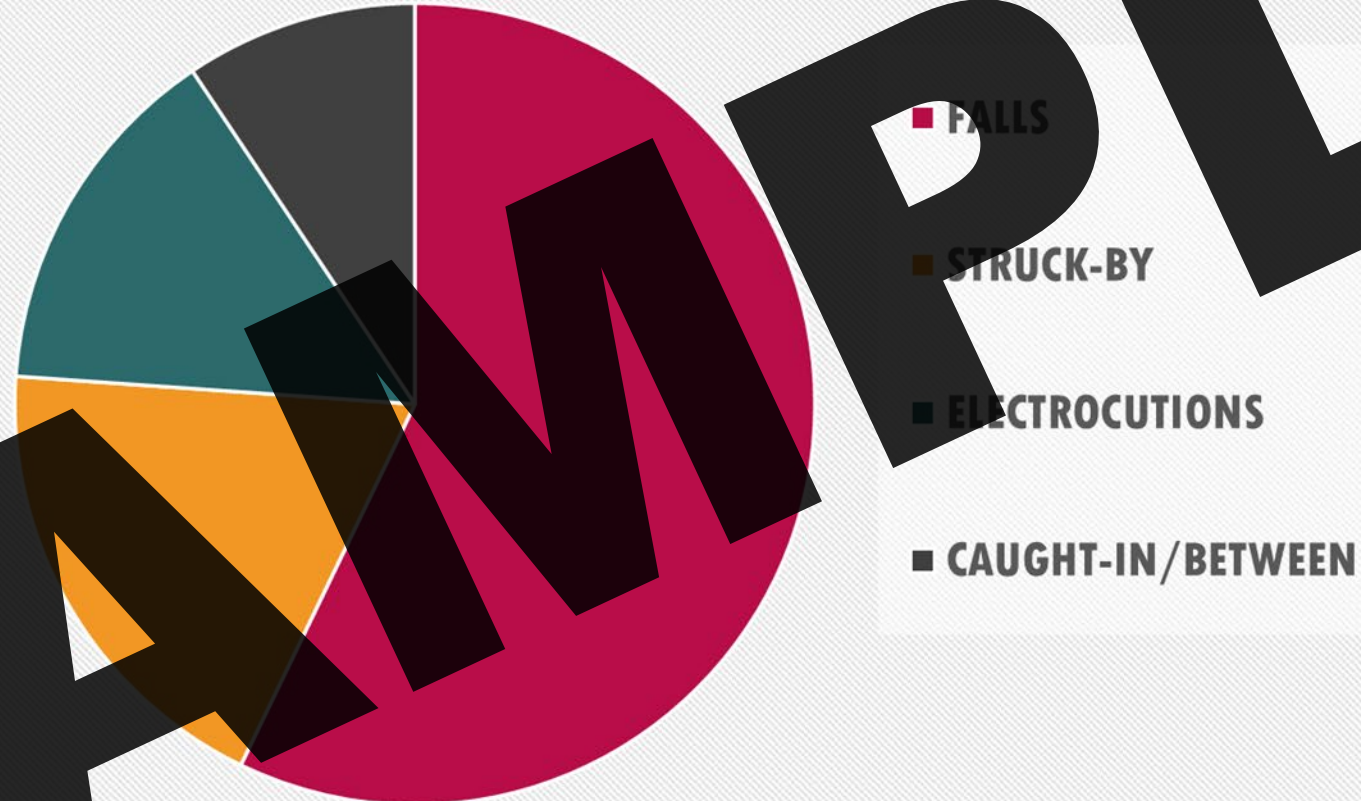


There were many factors that led to this employee's death. With this training, our hope is that you will not neglect basic safety measures and be more aware of the hazards around you.

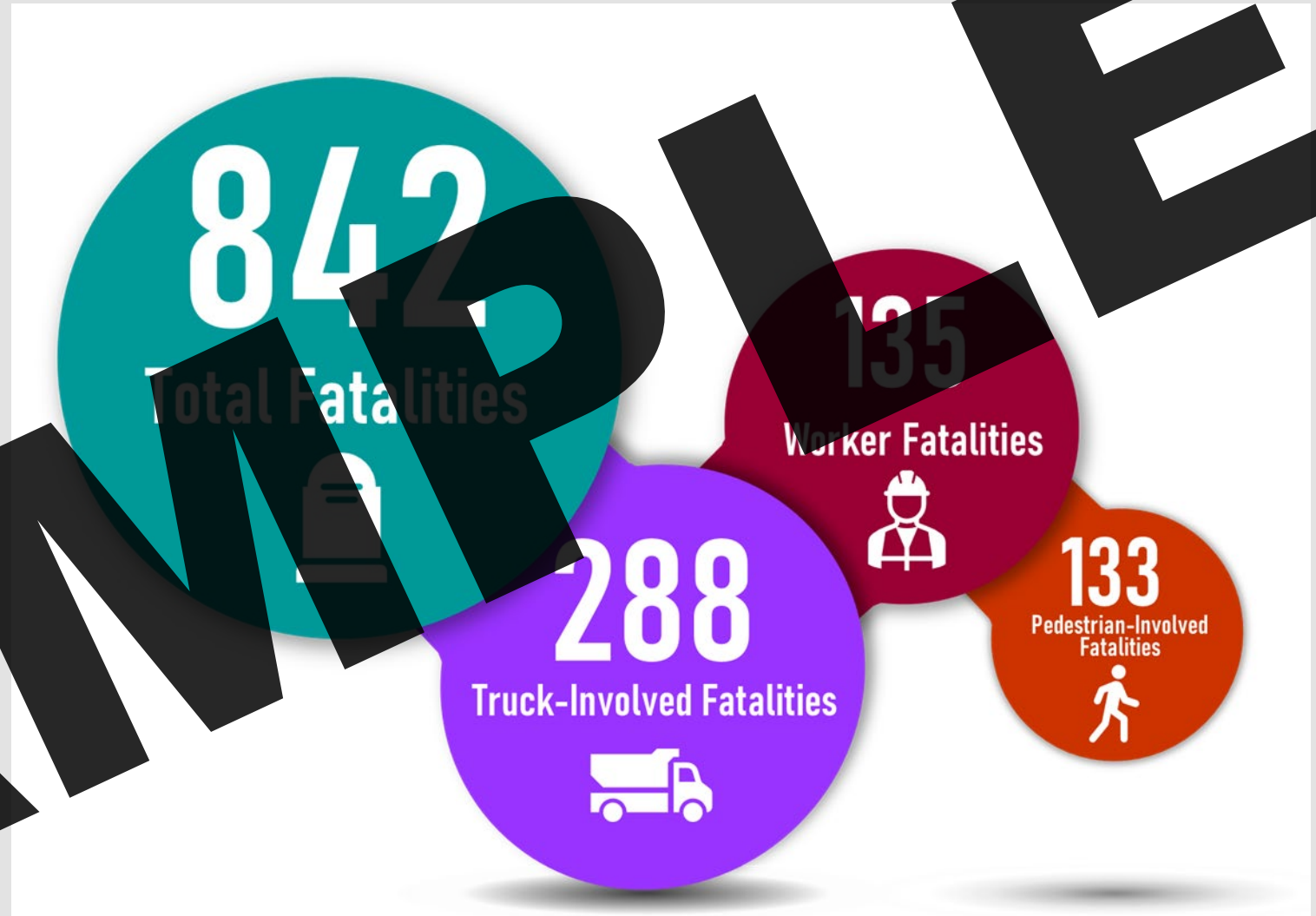
Your worksite may include other hazards that we cannot cover in this training. Your supervisor should provide the appropriate training and safety measures for each of these hazards, but it is your responsibility to be familiar with them.



It is estimated that nearly 1,000 deaths occur within the construction industry every year. Listed below are the four most common accidents that occur on a work zone. Regulatory bodies estimate that eliminating accidents caused by these four hazards would save more than 500 people each year.



People are injured and killed in construction accidents nationwide. The graphic to the right shows the average amount of deaths that occur every year on work zones.





To combat these many hazards, we will first discuss some of the general laws and regulations you will need to know before setting up a work zone. We will also discuss the proper method of planning, as well as some common hazards you should prepare for before you start working.



Next, we will describe work zone safe practices. These include how to properly set up a work zone, directing traffic, and more roadside safety principles. We will also teach you how to work within the work zone, ergonomics, and how to stay physically and mentally healthy.





All workers need to be acquainted with personal protective equipment. Much of this equipment is universal for any job you will undertake while some are additional, specific to the task that you are assigned to complete. We will cover all of these in detail and how to properly wear this equipment.





You will also have a variety of work equipment you will need to use to set up and manage your work site. Some of these are more dangerous than others which is why you will need to take extra precautions while using them.



Finally, know that work zones require a wide variety of vehicles and heavy machinery. Whether you are an operator or working around this equipment, there are universal safety protocols that you must abide by. If you are in fact required to operate machinery, you will need to be certified and trained how to operate your work vehicles safely.



The Life & Times

Monday, September 18, 2019

Safety in the Workplace- A3

Investigators looking into recent worker fatality

Federal Way – Early in the morning last Saturday, local construction workers hired to install several utility poles were involved in an accident that killed two and injured four.

The horrific chain of events started with a relatively minor accident at 7 a.m. when a worker fell into a well hole.



Throughout this training, we will look at real, investigated accident profiles. In some cases, two or three similar accidents have been combined for the purpose of illustrating key safety principles. They will show just how quickly things can go wrong when safety procedures are ignored, resulting in injuries or fatalities.



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STANDARDS

OSHA Act of 1970 General Duty Clause

29 CFR 1926.6 (u) - OSHA gives authority to the MUTCD

- Subpart G - MUTCD Referenced

29 CFR 1926.602- Material Handling Equipment

29 CFR 1926.604- Site Clearing



These are some of the main standards for work zones. Of course, states and provinces have additional standards, as do some industries. We have provided these as a guide, but it's your responsibility to know all federal, state/provincial, local and company rules that apply to your machine and job site.



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Why Training?

No matter the situation, it is common to hear workers and even employers ask, “Where does it state we need to be trained?” Can’t a worker also be deemed “qualified” based on experience? The answer is “no.” Experience helps, yes, but regulations are very clear that employees must be trained (no matter how long they’ve been on the job) and that it is the employer who is responsible for overseeing that safety training, ensuring employees have the understanding, knowledge, and skills needed to operate safely.



Initial training and refresher training, as well as any written and practical evaluations, must be documented and filed. At the very least, employers need to show proof of proper and consistent training (in the way of training outlines, class lists, training goals, tests, certificates, and so on.) These documents should include the name of the person who taught the class or conducted the evaluation.

WORKERS MUST RECEIVE REFRESHER TRAINING WHEN...

1. There are changes in their assigned duties.
2. There are changes regarding potential exposure to hazards, for which the employee has not received training.
3. If any deficiency has been noted in an employee's work performance that is related to the safety and health of themselves or other workers.
4. If an accident has occurred, or anytime an employee is injured or nearly injured during operations.

Note: In some areas, refresher training is required at least every three years (if not sooner).

Training is not just a one-and-done occurrence; it is on-going. In fact, training should take place whenever there is a demonstrated need for it. We have listed several instances when refresher training would be required. Can you think of any others?



The extent of training will be determined by the employer, but at the very least it should include classroom instruction followed by a written and practical examination that prove continued competency.



Our hope is that by the end of this training, you will be prepared to protect yourself from the most common hazards on the work zone. You will also have the tools to remain aware of your surroundings for any unexpected occurrence. We will next cover general regulations and a few basic tips to keep you safe in any situation.



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General Laws & Regulations



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