

**Case 145. 42-year-old tool and die maker died after being pinched between a rack of parallel spacers and a 47,000-pound die that was being moved by an overhead crane.**

A 42-year-old male tool and die maker died after being pinched between a rack of parallel spacers and a 47,000-pound die that was being moved by an overhead crane. The decedent, acting as spotter, was a member of a three-person crew maneuvering the die using a dual hoist overhead crane to place the die on a rail cart. The load was passing over nearby equipment as it was being positioned on the rail cart. The die contacted the scrap conveyor of a nearby mill putting the die into a rotation. At some point during the rotation, the decedent moved from his position at the end of the die to a position between the die and the rack of metal parallel spacers. Members of the crew did not see him change position, but did hear him yell out when he was pinched between the die and the spacers. The die rotated back and the decedent moved out from the pinch point and indicated that he was hurt. Emergency services were contacted and he was transported to a local hospital where he died several hours later.

MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health Division issued the following Serious and Other-than-Serious citations to the employer at the conclusion of their investigation:

**SERIOUS:**

OVERHEAD AND GANTRY CRANES, PART 18, RULE 1865(6)(c).

Crane was operated in a manner that did not ensure that the load cleared the scrap conveyor resulting in contact between the load and the equipment with unintentional rotation of load resulting in crush injury and fatality.

**SERIOUS:**

OVERHEAD AND GANTRY CRANES, PART 18, RULE 1852.

Inadequate crane training for operators in that training is not provided on all components listed in standard. Employees are provided information on capacities and use of attachments only.

**SERIOUS:**

OVERHEAD AND GANTRY CRANES, PART 18, RULE 1854(1).

No operator permits

**SERIOUS:**

OVERHEAD AND GANTRY CRANE, PART 18, RULE 1853 (1).

No testing of crane operators.

**OTHER-THAN-SERIOUS:**

OVERHEAD AND GANTRY CRANES, PART 18, RULE 1872(2).

No records maintained of frequent inspections.

OTHER-THAN-SERIOUS:

OVERHEAD AND GANTRY CRANES, PART 18, RULE 1872 (3)(a).

Firm is not conducting periodic inspections within the annual required time constraint.

OTHER-THAN-SERIOUS:

OVERHEAD AND GANTRY CRANES, PART 18, RULE 1843(1).

Button to activate westerly travel on crane pendant not labeled, pendant for 30/20-ton CRB crane.