

**Case 517. 24-year-old powered industrial truck mechanic died when a powered industrial truck raised by the forks of another powered industrial truck fell on him.**

A 24-year-old male powered industrial truck mechanic died when a powered industrial truck (PIT 1) raised by the forks of another powered industrial truck (PIT 2) fell on him. The decedent was making the final connections on the engine being installed in PIT 1 when he needed to work underneath it. It appeared that he used the forks of another powered industrial truck (PIT 2) to raise PIT 1 so he could work underneath the machine. He did not use the firm-provided jack stands, lift or wood blocks to raise the powered industrial truck. After raising the PIT 1, he did not use any means to prevent movement, such as wheel chocks while working under the machine. One of his coworkers received a call from the decedent's wife asking him if the decedent was still at the shop working. The coworker called another family member who lived nearby. This family member went to the shop and saw the decedent laying face up with PIT 1, which had all four tires on the ground, laying on his chest. The family member saw PIT 2 directly behind PIT 1. The family member used PIT 2 to lift PIT 1 off the decedent. The family member tried to revive the decedent but was unsuccessful. The family member called home and another family member called for 911. The decedent's coworker arrived back at the shop and noted that PIT 1's emergency brake was not set.

MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health Division issued the following Serious citation to the employer at the conclusion of its investigation.

**Serious: GI PART 21, POWERED INDUSTRIAL TRUCKS**

- 408.12162(2): When repairing a powered industrial truck, an employee shall use chock blocks, support blocks, or jack stands if there is a hazard from movement.

There were no chock blocks used on the *(brand name removed)* Powered Industrial Truck to prevent movement while being worked on in the Shop Area. *(MIFACE removed the manufacturer name)*

- 408.2162(3): An employee shall not place his or her body under a powered industrial truck unless the powered industrial truck is supported by properly arranged blocks or jack stands capable, in total, of supporting a minimum of 1½ times the weight of the component of the truck to be repaired.

Blocks or jack stands were not utilized while an employee was working under the *(brand name removed)* Powered Industrial Truck in a raised position. The *(brand name removed)* Powered Industrial Truck was located in the shop area. *(MIFACE removed the manufacturer name)*