

### **Case 18. Heavy Equipment Operator Was Killed When He Was Run Over By A Fuel Truck**

On May 29, 2002 a 48-year old male heavy equipment operator was killed when he was run over by a fuel truck that had finished fueling the equipment used on a road widening construction site and was backing up. The site supervisor had used his keys to warm up the victim's bulldozer. The victim, wearing a reflective vest, was returning the keys to the supervisor when the fuel truck struck him. The fuel truck was facing west. The truck driver walked around the back of the truck to get to the driver's side door and did not see anyone behind him. The truck had backed up approximately 30-40 feet when it struck the victim. While the truck was backing up, the victim was walking east, with his back to the truck. He was walking away from the fuel truck. The driver could not see the victim in the truck's rear view mirrors. Coworkers were yelling to the victim to get out of the way of the backing fuel truck, but it is thought that the victim could not hear them yell the warnings since he did not get out of the way. After being hit by the truck, the victim tried to crawl away from the truck and he was run over by the passenger-side rear dual tires. The fuel truck back-up indicator was sounding and the back-up lights were working.

MIOSHA did not issue any citations in this incident.