

Case 186. 55-year-old electrician died when the bridge of a pendant-controlled overhead crane struck the self-propelled elevating work platform in which he was elevated.

A 55-year-old male electrician died when the bridge of a pendant-controlled overhead crane struck the self-propelled elevating work platform in which he was elevated. One of the building owner's employees was using the crane to load a machine on the east side of the building and was in the process of returning the crane to the west side of the building. The decedent was elevated in a Sky Jack scissor lift to work on the speaker system in a new building addition. The decedent had placed the elevated work platform into position on the west side of a building crossbeam. He had placed cones around the Sky Jack but had not locked out the pendant-controlled crane or positioned a safety monitor. The firm for whom the decedent worked was required to notify the crane operator when work was to be performed in the vicinity of crane operation; the decedent did not notify the crane operator. The decedent elevated the Sky Jack's work platform 24 feet above the ground to work on the speaker system. While returning the crane to the previous location, the crane operator, who was walking on the ground with the pendant/lifting beam, did not appear to notice the Sky Jack or the cones placed around the Sky Jack. The crane's bridge struck the decedent's elevated platform and toppled it. The decedent and the Sky Jack landed on steel bar storage racks and other machine parts. The decedent was taken to a local hospital and died several weeks later from complications of the injuries sustained at the time of the incident.

MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Division issued the following alleged Serious citations to the employer at the conclusion of its investigation.

SERIOUS:

GENERAL RULES, PART 1, RULE 114(2)(b)

An accident prevention program shall, as a minimum, provide for the following:
Instruction to each employee regarding the operation procedures, hazards, and safeguards of tools and equipment when necessary to perform the job.

Employers accident prevention program doesn't provide adequate instruction /training for the operating procedures, hazards and safeguards of the tools and equipment necessary to perform their duties.

SERIOUS:

GENERAL RULES, PART 1, RULE 114(2)(c)

An accident prevention program shall, as a minimum provide the following:
Inspections of the construction site, tools, materials, and equipment to assure that unsafe conditions which could create a hazard are eliminated.

No inspection conducted of the worksite to assure that unsafe conditions that could create a hazard for the employees are eliminated.

SERIOUS:

AERIAL WORK PLATFORMS, PART 32, RULE 3207(8)

Training was not provided to each employee who operated the aerial work platform with instruction and training regarding the equipment before a permit was issued or reissued. Such instruction and training shall ensure that each operator is in compliance with the minimum following provisions:

- (a) Is instructed by a qualified person in the intended purpose and function of each of the controls.
- (b) Is trained by a qualified person or reads and understands the manufacturer's or owner's operating instructions and safety rules.
- (c) Understands by reading or by having a qualified person explain, all decals, warnings, instructions displayed on the aerial work platform.
- (d) Reads and understands the provisions of this subrule and subrules (1) to (7) & (9) of this rule or be trained by a qualified person on their content.

No operators permit and related training provided to employees by their employer. Employees using a self-propelled elevating work platform to access a work area.