

Case 203. 75-year-old owner of a plumbing and heating company was killed when he was pinned under a bulldozer, which tipped and landed on him as he was loading it onto a trailer.

A 75-year-old male owner of a plumbing and heating company was killed when he was pinned under a bulldozer, which tipped and landed on him as he was loading it onto a trailer. The decedent had finished backfilling a geothermal unit trench and was loading a bulldozer on a trailer when it tipped over and crushed him. The company usually uses a backhoe to backfill the geothermal trenches but the decedent thought that a bulldozer would be quicker and brought his personal bulldozer to the job site. Two coworkers told the decedent that when he was finished backfilling to come and get one of them to load the dozer onto the trailer. Typically, the decedent did not load the bulldozer on to a trailer, but decided to load it himself at this jobsite. The two coworkers were working in the home's basement and could hear the dozer moving around the house toward the trailer. After a few minutes they did not hear the dozer running and figured that the decedent had shut it down until they came up to load it. One of the coworkers came out of the basement to get material and saw the decedent pinned under the bulldozer.

At the conclusion of its investigation, MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Division issued the following Other-than-Serious citation:

OTHER-THAN-SERIOUS:

RECORDING AND REPORTING OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILLNESSES, PART OSH 11, RULE 1139(1):

An oral report of a work-related incident resulting in a fatality or the inpatient hospitalization of three or more employees was not made within eight hours after the occurrence to MIOSHA.