

**Case 276. 57-year-old owner of an automobile catalytic converter recycling company died when he fell from the top of a 12-filter dust collector while preparing the collector to be transported by a forklift.**

A 57-year-old male owner of an automobile catalytic converter recycling company died when he fell from the top of a 12-filter dust collector while preparing the collector to be transported by a forklift. The forklift tines were not long enough to fully support the dust collector. The dust collector's legs had been removed. The decedent climbed onto the top of the 10 foot wide 6 ½ foot tall, 6'11" deep dust collector 150-inch by 83-inch dust collector to adjust tie down straps which had been secured to a forklift when he fell forward and landed on the concrete floor, striking his head. The decedent was transported by emergency response to a local hospital, where he died a week later from the head injuries sustained at the time of the fall.

MIOSHA Occupational Safety and Health Division issued the following Serious and Other-than-Serious citations at the conclusion of its investigation.

SERIOUS: MICHIGAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT, ACT 154, P.A. 1974, as amended, section 11(a):

The employer did not furnish to each employee, employment and a place of employment, which was free from recognized hazards that were causing or were likely to cause death or serious physical harm to the employees:

Among other methods, one feasible and acceptable method to correct this violation is to provide fall protection equipment.

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 the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth, Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration, State Secondary Complex, 7150 Harris Drive, P.O. Box 30644, Lansing, MI 48909, phone 1-800-858-0397:

No report of fatality.