

Case 432. 34-year-old pallet repairer died from complications of a fall injury he sustained walking in a 10-foot wide aisleway in a production area.

A 34-year-old male pallet repairer died from complications of a fall injury he sustained in a production area that was free from holes and slip/trip hazards. The incident occurred in a 10-foot wide aisleway. The decedent was carrying a roll of banding through the shop. He set it down, turned around, tripped and caught his foot on a stack of pallets near him. A week after the injury and after several days off of work, the decedent contacted his employer and requested to see a doctor to have the ankle evaluated. The doctor referred him to an orthopedic doctor who diagnosed a possible torn Achilles tendon and placed him in a foot brace and scheduled further medical evaluation. Three days after seeing the orthopedic doctor, the decedent died from a medical issue caused by the injury. The employer was informed by one of the decedent's coworkers of his death.

MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health Division issued the following Other-Than-Serious citations to the employer at the conclusion of its investigation:

OTHER-THAN-SERIOUS: ADM PART 11, RECORDING AND REPORTING OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURES AND ILLNESSES

- Rule 408.22139(1): Reporting fatalities, hospitalizations, amputations and losses of an eye as a result of work-related incidents to MIOSHA within 8 hours after the death of any employee from a work-related incident, you must report the fatality by telephone to the MIOSHA toll-free central telephone number: 1-800-858—397

A fatality was not reported for approximately 22 hours after the employer was notified.

- Rule 408.22129(4): You must enter each recordable injury or illness on the MIOSHA 300 log and 301 incident report within 7 calendar days of receiving information that a recordable injury or illness has occurred.

A lost time injury was not entered on the Form 300 Injury and Illness Log or equivalent within 7 calendar days.