

**Case 434. 52-year-old preparation manager died when he was pinned between the pickup truck he was moving and a parked pickup truck.**

A 52-year-old male preparation manager died when he was pinned between the pickup truck he was moving and a parked pickup truck. The decedent was retrieving brand new pickup trucks across the street from a dealership. At the time of the incident, the truck he was retrieving was in the front row next to the road and there were two rows of trucks parked behind it. The decedent moved an unrelated truck and then came back and started the truck in the row directly behind the truck he needed. There was an open space to the right and in front of this pickup truck so he backed the truck up and drove the pickup into the open spot out of the way. He opened the driver's side door and at that point the truck moved in reverse. The truck he was driving struck another pickup truck that was parked to the left and next to the truck he was operating. His pickup struck the truck bed of the parked pickup and the opened driver's door caught the parked truck and folded out and forward towards the front fender. The decedent was thrown out of the driver's side door and pinned between the bed of the parked pickup and the open driver door and B-pillar of the pickup he was driving. He was found unresponsive between the two trucks. When he was found, the truck he was operating was running and the gear shift was in neutral. The individual finding the decedent put the truck in park and then ran for help. The decedent was not wearing a seat belt.

MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health Division issued one Safety and Health Recommendation to the employer at the conclusion of its investigation.

**An inspection/investigation of your worksite revealed the following condition(s) that may constitute a safety or health hazard to your employee(s):**

An employee wasn't wearing a seat belt and also left the driver's door open while the employee was driving a vehicle backwards in the truck storage lot. This resulted in the employee being thrown from that vehicle when it hit another vehicle, causing a fatal injury.

**Recommendation:**

To prevent a future similar incident, we recommend that management take the following actions:

- (a) Train and require all employees to close all vehicle doors before any vehicles are driven/moved in any area of the facility.

Train and require all employees to wear seat belts while they are inside a vehicle and driving/moving that vehicle anywhere.