


New Mexico Occupational Safety & Health

FATAL FACTS



No. 8775-003

Accident Type:	Caught in between	
Number of Fatalities	1	
Weather Conditions:	Clear	
Type of Operation:	Oil Drilling	
Size of Work Crew:	29	
Competent Safety Monitor on Site:	yes	
Safety and Health Program in Effect:	yes	
Was the Worksite Inspected Regularly:	yes	
Training and Education Provided:	Forklift training	
Employees Job Titles:	driller	
Age & Gender:	48 m	
Experience at this Type of Work:	Unknown	
Time on Project:	One day	

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

Driller supervisor instructed the crew working in the maintenance shop to clean up in preparation for the end of the day. The crew had been working repairing rig equipment so that it could be returned to service. Since the rig was out of service some of the rig crew was assisting the mechanic in the repair of equipment. Driller moved forklift outside and was looking for hydraulic leak in engine compartment when his leg moved the joystick and dropped the forklift arm upon his upper body.

INSPECTION RESULTS

As the result of its investigation, NM OSHA issued citations for two serious and one other violation's of its general industry standards.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Employers must insure each powered industrial truck (PIT) operator is competent in the safe operation of the PIT as demonstrated through training and evaluation. **29 CFR 1910.178(L)**
2. Any PIT not in safe operating condition shall be removed from service and repairs made by authorized personnel. **29 CFR 1910.178 Q**
3. PIT's shall be examined before being placed in service and shall not be placed in service if the examination shows any condition adversely affects the safety of the vehicle PIT shall be examined daily. **29 CFR 1910.178 Q (7)**

NOTE: The case described here was selected as being representative of fatalities caused by improper work practices. No special emphasis or priority is implied nor is the case necessarily a recent occurrence. The legal aspects of the incident have been resolved, and the case is now closed.