# CSI Country Wide Case Study Safety Strategy Discussion

# **Construction Safety Investigator**

## Instructions

# CHUBB

The objective of this tool is to provide field supervisors with information to proactively engage workers and discuss safety related concerns that they may encounter. Safety discussions should not be limited to the subject above and should pertain to the activities that workers will be involved in that may have the potential for safety related exposures.

**Case Day:** October 2008

Accident Type: Lockout/Tagout Accident - Portable Cement Mixer

**Relevant laws, rules and codes may include:** 29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.20(b)(4), 1926.21(b)(2), 1926.702(j)(1)

#### Case:

A 21 year-old construction worker suffered serious head and other injuries after being pulled into a portable cement mixer.

## Accident Detail:

The worker who was employed by a masonry contractor at a commercial building site was preparing concrete.

For unknown reasons, the worker reached into the mixer (likely to clear a jam caused by aggregate) when he was pulled arm-first into the machinery.

It took 45 minutes to free the worker from the mixer. Emergency personnel needed to use the Jaws of Life to cut the mixer apart. As a result of being pulled into the portable mixer, the worker's arm and head were impaled by the mixer's blades.

## **Reconstructive Safety Evaluation:**

- What are some of the possible causes of the accident being discussed?
- What actions could have been taken that might have prevented this accident from occurring?

### Accident Scene Conclusion:

The investigation revealed that the worker had used portable mixers before but had never been trained in their use. It was evident that the worker reached into the mixer while it was in operation rather then shutting it down and locking out the power source (Lockout/Tagout). There was no procedures in place regarding Lockout/Tagout, how to clear a jam or how to clean out the drum.

### **Preventive Safety Measures Include:**

- All operations are preplanned using a Job Safety Task Analysis (JSTA) to ensure potential safety hazards associated with an operation are identified and appropriate steps are taken to eliminate or control them.
- Workers should be trained in the hazards of the work they are to perform, the personal protective equipment and safe work procedures necessary to perform their assigned tasks.
- Workers are not permitted to perform maintenance or other activities on portable concrete mixers unless they are first shut down and all potential energy sources have been locked out and tagged.

#### Attendance Roster

Reference: This case is fictitious, and any resemblance to any persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental. However, the type of accident described in this case summary happens all too often on construction sites.

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