CASE STUDY

FATAL ACCIDENT

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

November 7, 2005: One fatality. A construction worker was crushed between the outrigger and the rotating superstructure of a truck crane. The worker apparently was trying to retrieve a level and a set of blueprints located on the horizontal member of one of the outriggers when the operator began to swing the boom.

Section 1926.1424, Work area control, will prevent this type of accident. This section generally requires that employers erect barriers to mark the area covered by the rotating superstructure to warn workers of the danger zone. However, workers who must work near equipment with a rotating superstructure must be trained in the hazards involved. If a worker must enter a marked area, the crane operator must be notified of the entry, and must not rotate the superstructure until the area is clear.