

9 Crushed by fallen vehicle – Inspection #1298302

A **26 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he was **crushed by a vehicle** that fell while being hoisted by a tow truck. The company sells used auto parts from salvaged vehicles and conducts auto repairs. On the day of the incident, the victim was assigned to remove a transmission from a 2006 Chrysler 300 that was located in the salvage yard. The victim was the only parts-puller employee. At approximately 5pm another employee realized that the victim had not returned to the garage with the work truck. The employee proceeded to the salvage yard where the victim was supposed to be working to remove the transmission. Upon arrival the employee found the victim pinned underneath the front wheel of the Chrysler 300 vehicle. The investigation revealed that the victim was using a battery powered Ramsey RE 12,000 winch and fabricated boom that was mounted in the bed of a Dodge pickup truck. This setup created a tow truck type system. It was determined that the Dodge truck was used to lift parts from a vehicle as well as connecting to vehicles and moving them around the yard. There were no jack stands or any other type of cribbage observed under the vehicle. It appeared that the victim used the fabricated winch system mounted in the Dodge truck to lift the Chrysler 300 by connecting the hook of the winch to the serpentine belt of the car. The serpentine belt was found broken. The victim had removed three bolts from the transmission and tools were observed under the vehicle. The investigation concluded that the means of connection to lift the vehicle off the ground (serpentine belt that broke) in combination with the winch being used as a hoisting mechanism resulted in the vehicle falling which crushed the victim underneath.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1

TCA 50-3-105(1)	<p>The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees.</p> <p>In that an employee was crushed when a vehicle fell on him due to using a Ramsey RE 12,000 winch as a hoisting mechanism, which is prohibited by the manufacturer.</p> <p>Among other methods, one feasible and acceptable abatement method to correct this hazard is to use a proper hoisting mechanism, develop a procedure for lifting using appropriate equipment, and train employees on lifting procedure.</p>
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Citation 1 Item 2

1910.244(a)(2)(iii)	<p>Loads were not cribbed, blocked or otherwise secured immediately after being raised with a jack.</p> <p>In that an employee was crushed while attempting to remove the transmission from a vehicle (Chrysler 300) that was lifted off the</p>
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	ground with a winch, but not secured/supported in any other manner.
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Citation 2 Item 1a

1910.1200(e)(1)	<p>The employer did not develop, implement, and/or maintain at the workplace a written hazard communication program which describes how the criteria specified in 29 CFR 1910.1200(f), (g), and (h) will be met.</p> <p>In that there was not a written hazard communication program for the chemicals employees are exposed to during regular work operations such as transmission fluid, gasoline and motor oil.</p>
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Citation 2 Item 1b

1910.1200(g)(1)	<p>The employer did not have a material safety data sheet for each hazardous chemical in use.</p> <p>In that the employer did not have a SDS on site for transmission fluid, gasoline, and motor oil that the employees were exposed to on a daily basis.</p>
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Citation 2 Item 1c

1910.1200(h)(1)	<p>Employees were not provided effective information and training on hazardous chemicals in their work area at the time of their initial assignment and whenever a new hazard that the employees had not been previously trained about was introduced into their work area.</p> <p>In that employees did not receive training on the hazards associated with the chemicals that they are exposed to during their daily work assignments, such as transmission fluid, gasoline, and motor oil.</p>
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Citation 2 Item 2a

TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.05(1)(a)l	<p>Within eight (8) hours after the death of any employee as a result of a work related incident, the employer did not report the fatality to the TOSHA Division of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.</p> <p>In that the employer did not report the fatality that occurred on February 20th at approximately 3:45 p.m. until February 23rd at 9:30</p>
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	a.m.
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Citation 2 Item 2b

TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.03(27)(a)	<p>The log of all work-related injuries and illnesses (OSHA Form 300), and/or the summary of work-related injuries and illnesses, (OSHA form 300-A), and/or the injury and illness incident report (OSHA Form 301) or equivalent forms were not maintained by the establishment.</p> <p>In that employer did not maintain OSHA 300 Forms, OSHA 301 form or equivalent as required for the year 2018</p>
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<p>Photo 1 of 1 – Shows the two vehicles involved in the incident. The car was hoisted off the ground by the hoisting device in the bed of the truck.</p>
