8. Struck by truck

A 69-year-old truck driver died after being caught under the front wheel of his truck. The victim arrived at a farmer's cooperative to pick up a shipment of bagged fertilizer. He backed his tractor-trailer into position at a receiving dock and exited the cab of the truck without setting the tractor brake system or shutting down the tractor engine. Four employees of the cooperative manually loaded fertilizer bags into the trailer. After about 20 minutes, they noted that the trailer began to slowly move away from the dock. They exited the trailer when they felt the unit come to a stop. They found the truck driver had been caught under the left front tire of the truck. There were no witnesses to the occurrence and no surveillance video was available. Based on observations, measurements, and interviews it appears that after the driver left his truck, he had at some point crossed to the passenger side. He observed the tractor-trailer begin moving away from the dock, whereupon he crossed in front of the tractor in an attempt to enter the tractor cab on the driver's side to stop the vehicle. In this attempt, he was caught between the left front tire and the ground. Emergency medical responders arrived on site, treated the victim at the scene and transported him to a local hospital where he died a short time later.

No Citations Issued

