11. Struck by Equipment

A 45-year-old Vietmanese pipe fitter/welder/temporary supervisor was killed when he was crushed by overturned equipment. The employer of the victim was contracted to move a large control unit from a flatbed truck into a manufacturing facility's paint-mix room where it was to be installed. The control unit was removed from the flatbed truck using a forklift. The base of the control unit, which was 25 inches wide, seven and one-half feet tall and 13 feet long, was placed on two 24-inch-by-24-inch dollies. This allowed approximately 0.5 inches of the control unit base to extend over the edges of both sides of the horizontal surface of the dollies. The control unit was then pushed into the facility by the forklift while resting on the dollies. Four employees were walking along with the unit as it was pushed parallel to its longest dimension. When the unit arrived at the roll-up door of the facility, it was rotated in a clockwise motion to position it properly. The victim and a co-worker began using hammers to remove two four-inch-by-four-inch dunnage posts attached to the base of the control unit. When one of the posts was removed, the base lost its rigidity causing it to flex outward and topple over onto the victim. He died from his injuries.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

Citation 1

T.C.A. 50-3-105(1)	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 in that the employer did not provide dollies with a
	sufficient length and width to provide a stable foundation for the
	move, did not develop and implement transfer procedures, and did
	not evaluate the possible impact of removing ancillary packaging
	and dunnage.



