

## **#22: Crushed By – Inspection #1004075**

A **58 year old male** employee was crushed by an overturned front-end loader/back-hoe. The victim had been employed for approximately two weeks and had been allowed to operate the back-hoe sporadically. On the day of the incident, the victim was operating the front-end loader/back-hoe. The employee moved the equipment to get crushed rock to put into a trench for leveling. The employee drove the equipment over the side of the elevated pad. The equipment overturned and fatally crushed the operator. The front-end loader/back-hoe was not equipped with a seat belt at the time of the accident.

### **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 1926.20(b)(2)	The employer did not initiate and maintain programs which provided for frequent and regular inspections of the job site, materials and equipment to be made by a competent person(s). In that a Case 580 super L back-hoe/loader had not been inspected by a competent person prior to use at the construction site prior to its use. The back-hoe was not equipped with a seatbelt and was used by multiple operators, including the superintendent.
Item 2 1926.20(b)(4)	The employer failed to permit only those employees qualified by training or experience to operate equipment and machinery. In that two employees were allowed to operate a Case 580 Super L back-hoe/loader who was not aware that a seat belt is required when operating the equipment.
Item 3a 1926.28(a)	Appropriate personal protective equipment was not worn by employee(s) in all operations where there was exposure to hazardous conditions. In that employees failed to use a seatbelt while operating a Case 580 Super L back-hoe/loader.
Item 3b 1926.602(a)(2)(i)	Seat belts were not provided on all equipment covered by this section and did not meet the requirements of the Society of Automotive Engineers, J386-1969, Seatbelts for Construction Equipment. In that a Case 580 Super L back-hoe/loader was missing a seat belt for the operator's seat.

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Photo 1 of 1: Track-hoe was used to move overturned back-hoe