

A 35 year old male fell 38" from a work platform to the concrete floor below while shackling the hind leg of an animal in preparation for processing. It was determined that he lost his balance and fell.

The victim was working as a "cutter on the production line in the slaughterhouse. He would receive the hoisted animal, sever the jugular, and ensure the proper bleeding of the animal. On the day of the incident, the victim had completed his tasks and all animals that were hoisted had been cut and bled. The employee working as a shackler on the shackle platform was gone to get more cattle loaded into the chute. In order to keep the production line moving, the victim accessed the shackle platform from the side closest to his workstation to shackle the next animal. The platform is 38 inches from the ground to the working surface, there is an iron beam that is 14 1/2 inches from the working surface of the platform to the top of the beam running the entire length, and the working platform is 53 inches wide and 11 feet 2 inches in length. There are stairs leading up to a platform that is 38 inches high, 56 inches long, and 28 inches wide and connects to the working surface of the shackle platform. During the process of shackling the animal the victim apparently lost his footing and fell backwards off the shackle platform striking his head on the concrete floor below.

Additionally during the inspection, an employee was witnessed to hold onto a metal bar above the door between the production area and warehouse and swing down from the shackle work platform to the ground below. Through interviews with employees, it was determined that most decided to jump up and down at the side of the shackle platform rather than walk around to the side that had stairs.

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

Type of Violation: Serious

\$4000

29 CFR 1910.22(c): The employer did not provide, and ensure each employee uses, a safe means of access and egress to and from walking-working surfaces.

In that three employees accessed the cattle shackle platform from the side and did not use the stairs provided.

Citation 2 Item 1

Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious

\$2000

TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.05(1)(a)1: 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.

In that Southeastern Provision, LLC failed to report the fatality of one employee who passed away on June 22, 2021 from injuries sustained on June 18, 2021 until June 23, 2021 more than 8 hours from the time the employer learned of the passing of the employee.





