

Concrete Pile Handling – Crushed/Leg Amputation



A 23 yr. old contract laborer lost a right leg below the knee and suffered fractures in her left leg and hip from a crushing injury at the pile manufacturing site.

Activity: Stowing newly casted pilings. First row of pilings were placed on dunnage and shimstock. Second tier begun with outside piling located on last piling set. Rigging was removed by rigger and laborer and both moved away from site on form bed walkway. Moments after stowage of second tier piling, it rolled on the legs of the laborer who stood on the form bed walkway.

Root cause(s):

- > workers knowingly worked in a crushing hazard area;
- > failure of of shimstock and dunnage no inspection criteria used;
- > storage area surface slopes;
- > personnel assisting in handling pilings – training and knowledge of hazards and hazard controls unknown.

Lessons learned:

- > AHAs must be updated when additional site hazards are discovered;
- > inspection criteria must be developed and followed when using wood dunnage for storing heavy materials;
- > personnel must be properly trained, briefed, and supervised when engaging in workplace activities they are not familiar with.