

# Dropped Steel Beam Fatality

- August 2009 Working after normal business hours
- An 8A IDIQ Contractor
- Performing ATFP Improvements
- Subcontractor Employee
- Steel erection - setting canopy beams with a material handling rough terrain forklift. Nylon rigging strap overloaded and broke causing beam to fall on worker (employee under suspended load) pinning him under the beam.
- Process changed when contractor lifted one 70+ foot long section versus two approximately 35+ feet long sections as planned.
- Operator not licensed.



Fallen Beam  
approximately 73  
feet long

09/01/2009

Vertical column  
(pedestal) location of  
intended final beam  
resting point



Rough terrain  
material handling  
forklift

09/01/2009



Scissor lift platform  
on which employee  
was positioned under  
the load.

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GEHL

Turbo

TL2002

Broken overloaded  
nylon rigging strap

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Beam rigging attachment mechanism – nylon sling broke at this attachment point.

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6002/10/60  
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TUFF-EDGE®

POLYESTER	2 IN. WIDE	8 FT. LG.
TYPE: EE2-802T	S.N.	1299969
 VERTICAL 6400 LBS. CAP.	 CHOKER 5000 LBS. CAP.	 BASKET 12800 LBS. CAP.

Sling used in choker configuration – 5000 lbs max. capacity. Critical lift required for 75% of capacity.

Beam = 4960 lbs  
Rigging = 450 lbs

Model Number

183

Product  
Identification  
Number

R56JU09L5044

Net Mass

22500

lb

kg

Capacity

8000

lb

kg

Forklift data plate

Complies with ASME B56.6 requirements  
using a 24 in (610 mm) load center distance

09/01/2009