

LEASE 5-

Naval Facilities Engineering Command



Abstract of an Accident

92-17

ACCIDENT TYPE:	Fall from Scaffold
INJURY:	Broken Bones and Internal Injuries
TYPE OF WORK:	Masonry
EQUIPMENT:	Scaffold
SAFETY EQUIPMENT:	None Worn

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCIDENT:

Employee was on masonry scaffold erected on interior side of wall being built at the fourth floor level. His duties were to supply the masons with materials. He was tugging on a piece of wire mesh caught on floor/scaffold with his back to the outside. He lost his balance and fell backwards off the scaffold. The job was just starting at the fourth floor level so no masonry was buildup that would have stopped his fall and no barrier system had been erected. He fell 37.5 feet to the ground landing on a pile of wire mesh, which broke his fall.

DIRECT CAUSE:

Lack of fall protection system and poor hazard analysis in the contractor's accident prevention plan.

CONTRIBUTING CAUSES:

Employee was a young laborer who had only been on the job for one month. A recent OSH construction accident study found that new employees are often involved in accidents. Inadequate new employee training was a factor. Also familiarity with a specific site must be developed. Without that it has been found that even experienced workers tend to have accidents when they come to a new site.

LESSONS LEARNED:

Contractor's accident prevention plan should emphasize specific hazard analysis for all high hazard operations.

Fall protection should be provided. If safety lines are not practical then a guardrail system, nets or a combination should be provided.

All new employees must receive initial safety training in hazard recognition and use of personal protective equipment.

Your **SAFETY** contact is...