

# Contractor Fatality Fall from Elevation



**58 year old male contract employee**

**Activity:** A delivery driver was accessing a forklift positioned on top of a lowboy trailer, approximately **17 inches** above an existing asphalt parking lot surface. The worker lost his footing as he descended from the forklift. He fell straight back, striking his hardhat and the back of his head on the asphalt surface.

**Injury: Fatality from traumatic brain injury**

**Potential Causes:**

- Loss of balance/footing while descending from forklift
- Inadequate hazard assessment and safety oversight of equipment delivery process

**Communication Points:**

- Equipment must be accessed according to the manufacturer's operating manual
- The availability of adequate surface area for footing must be ensured when mounting/dismounting equipment



**Driver fell from  
this point to  
asphalt below.**

What can go wrong?

What can I do about it?

If I can't do anything about it, whom do I tell?