



LANT ACCIDENT ABSTRACT

ACCIDENT TYPE: **Caught Between**

INJURY: **Broken Hip/Leg/Internal Injury**

TYPE OF WORK: **Excavation/Trenching**

EQUIPMENT: **Excavator**

SAFETY EQUIP.: **Trench Box (Manufactured)**

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT:

Injured worker left the protection of trench box during the installation of a sanitary in an excavation approximately 8 ft. in depth to perform a physical probe for a second existing sanitary sewer line in order to perform a temporary tie in. The side of the excavation fissured and caved in trapping the employee up to the waist.

DIRECT CAUSE:

Workers left the engineered shoring protection and became trapped when the side of an excavation caved in.

CONTRIBUTING CAUSES:

1. The competent person, on site, trained in excavation safety, was not assigned to direct the excavation work.
2. The weather conditions at the time were drizzle with surface saturation.
3. The contractors site safety plan and Activity Hazard Analysis clearly addressed excavation safety procedures but was not enforced.
4. Safe means for access to the trench supporting system was not being utilized at the time of the incident.
5. Workers were quickly trying to tie in the new line temporarily before leaving for the day.

LESSONS LEARNED:

1. Ensure contractor reviews the approved Activity Hazard Analysis during the Preparatory Phase of inspection prior to starting the work activity with the employees performing the work. This discussion must include employee training/experience, employee Personal Protective Equipment, equipment (including review of manufacturers data), documented inspections by a Competent Person (soil, dewatering, atmosphere, supporting system), and emergency plans.

Construction Mishaps Today = Mishap Prevention Tomorrow