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Abstract of an Accident

Accident Type: Fall From Height
Injury: Fatality
Type of Work: Abrasive blasting and painting of facility structural steel interior ceiling and supports.
Equipment: Fall Protection Equipment

DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCIDENT:

- ◆ Worker had finished lunch and ascended 56 feet to start work. Worker was wearing fall protection harness and lanyard. Worker was at top standing on a platform when he fell to the ground below.

DIRECT CAUSE:

- ◆ Failure by the worker to connect his fall protection lanyard to the anchor point once on platform. 100% tie off.

INDIRECT CAUSE:

- ◆ Safety oversight and inspection was inadequate.
- ◆ Lack of strict enforcement for serious safety violations was not evident.
- ◆ Fall Protection Plan was adequate but had not been followed. Worker had not gone through employee indoctrination before starting work with company. On the job one day.
- ◆ Failure to recognize the deficient implementation of the contractor's complete safety program.
- ◆ Worker had recent history of heart condition and was wearing a respirator without completing the required medical surveillance.

ROOT CAUSE:

- ◆ Ineffective safety enforcement on the worksite: A review indicated that there was a failure to enforce positive or negative safety such as; rewards for safe practices or disciplinary actions for poor safety practices. This led to low expectations regarding following safety regulations.
- ◆ Failure to ascertain worker medical and physical condition to perform assigned tasks.

LESSONS LEARNED:

- ◆ Safety performance by workers is a direct result on site leadership and management (ORM). Effective safety enforcement systems implemented by managers and supervisors can ensure proper safety practices are followed at all times, thereby preventing injury and death.
- ◆ Contractors have responsibility to ensure workers are medically and physically qualified to perform the duties assigned.

~~◆ Workers have a responsibility to disclose medical and physical conditions to the employer that may prohibit performance of work assigned.~~

YOUR SAFETY CONTACT IS....

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