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Abstract of an Accident

Accident Type: Fall from Height
Injury: Serious Injury
Type of Work: Prevent Maintenance on Electrical System of Bridge Crane
Equipment: Crane Catwalk Unguarded Opening



DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCIDENT:

- ◆ The worker was performing preventive maintenance work on the bridge crane electrical system adjacent to an opening. The worker stepped backwards and fell 14 feet to the deck below and sustained a compound fracture to the right femur and lacerations.

DIRECT CAUSE:

- ◆ Four parties (Safety, Crane Supervision, Contractor Safety Manager, and worker) acknowledged or knew hazard existed. A draft report from a hazard abatement company clearly identified this hazard and showed hazard existed for three years. No temporary abatement measures were executed to prevent a worker from falling during this time.

INDIRECT CAUSE:

- ◆ Failure by safety, contractor, crane supervisor, and worker to follow temporary abatement measures.
- ◆ Failure of awareness training.
- ◆ Failure to use unsafe/unhealthful working condition reporting system.

ROOT CAUSE:

- ◆ Ineffective safety abatement: A review indicated the parties knew the hazardous condition existed and failed to execute temporary measures to abate the hazard.

LESSONS LEARNED:

- ◆ Improve process to initiate temporary abatement of hazardous conditions.
- ◆ Improve awareness training program for identification of hazards in the workplace.
- ◆ Improve unsafe/unhealthful working condition reporting system.

YOUR SAFETY CONTACT IS....

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