



# SAFETY ALERT # 10



Week of April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006

*In the interest of keeping everyone safe CAMSAFETY will be sharing injury information with preliminary root cause analysis. This information is intended to make you think not assess blame. If you have an incident that you would like to share send us the information and we will pass it along.*

## **What Happened**

Two workers, a father and son, were working on a fixed tower crane on a 60 story high-rise condo under construction in Miami. The workers were either installing or repairing a tie-in collar on the 39<sup>th</sup> floor when it failed. One worker, the father, fell to the ground and was killed, the other's fall was arrested by his Personal Fall Arrest System (PFAS), he was not seriously injured. This very recent accident is under investigation and it is still not clear exactly what happened, it is also still not clear whether the victim was wearing a PFAS, if it failed or was damaged in the accident.

**Applicable Standards** – Florida is an OSHA state, we have applied MIOSHA standards here. Note that the MIOSHA Fall Protection Standard – Part 45, specifically cites OSHA Standards.

### *Part 10 – Lifting and Digging Equipment*

408.41028(a)(2) - A hammerhead crane shall not be operated when wind speeds are more than the maximum velocities recommended by the manufacturer. (this may or may not have been a factor in this accident)

408.41028(a)(6) - Where a floor of a structure is used as the supporting base for a crane, a competent person shall determine the load bearing ability of the floor and recommend necessary shoring.

### *Part 45 – Fall Protection*

1926.502(a)(1) - Fall protection systems required by this part shall comply with the applicable provisions of this section.

1926.502(a)(1) - Employers shall provide and install all fall protection systems required by this subpart for an employee, and shall comply with all other pertinent requirements of this subpart before that employee begins the work that necessitates the fall protection.

## **Recommendations**

- Make sure that all aspect of the crane (regardless of size, type, capacity, etc..) are inspected by a competent person and meet ALL manufacturers specifications.
- Insure that all employees have AND use proper PFAS and other fall protection/prevention equipment.

## **Additional Issue**

It's still too early in the investigation to nail down any semblance of a root cause. However, there are several things we can do to make sure all lifting operations and crane set-up procedures are followed. These workers may have been doing everything right when the crane failed for reasons beyond their control. This accident shows how all accidents are multi-faceted and have multiple causes. Accounts of this accident can be found at <http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=crane+accident+miami>, keep in mind that time moves on and these links are not usually posted for very long.

---

**Joe Forgue ARM, ASP**

**Manager of Education and Safety Services**

**CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN (CAM)**

**(248) 972-1141 direct**

**[forgue@cam-online.com](mailto:forgue@cam-online.com)**

---