



# SAFETY ALERT # 14



July 3rd, 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

A worker was stepping out of his truck, which was parked on the shoulder of I-94 in Port Huron Township, when he was struck by a vehicle which had lost control. The worker was placing a temporary traffic control device on the shoulder when he was hit. He was wearing a reflective "traffic" vest and had a flashing amber light on this truck. It

was not immediately clear why the driver lost control of his vehicle.

## Applicable Standards

Although it is too early to tell if any applicable standards were violated you should know that MIOSHA Part 22 - Signals, Signs, Tags and Barricades covers this type of operation.

## Prevention

It is inadvisable to have a worker on the freeway by him/herself. There should be a second vehicle, preferably with a Truck Mounted Attenuator (TMA), that can be positioned a suitable distance behind the "work" vehicle. There are at least two very good reasons for this. One of course is to block the path of oncoming traffic. The other is to alert motorists to either a problem or construction ahead. Either way this gives the motorists an opportunity to react taking the decision out of the "split second" category.

## Additional Issues

Not to discount the serious injury to the road worker this incident could have been much worse. The truck struck the concrete barrier before being hit by a third vehicle and catching fire. It really drives home the point that anything can happen in the blink of an eye.

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