



SAFETY ALERT # 23



June 8, 2007

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.

FALLING MATERIAL CAUSES SEPARATE FATALITIES

What Happened

Bad things come in two's lately. Although, this type of incident is not all that uncommon, it just goes unreported most of the time. In each case a mechanical failure caused the dump box to topple over and dump the load. The Lansing accident resulted in the death of the driver of the truck on the left (see picture), the other incident resulted in a tired driver.



Lansing Accident



Dumped Load

Prevention:

- The dump site is not ready for semi-end dumps until it has been compacted, leveled and watered;
- Make sure the ground is level ground, similar to what is required for a modern day crane. A little extra blade and roller time makes all the difference.
- Put someone in charge at the dump site, this is a good time for a "competent person".
- All employees on the site involved in the dumping operation should have a good communication system in place.
- Any driver not dumping as directed should stopped immediately and counseled on the proper procedure.
- Never allow two semi-end dump trucks to dump at the same time unless they can be spaced at least twice the length of the trailer apart from each other.
- Have equipment at the dump site to clean up the dribbles and crumbs and keep the area flat and compacted.
- If dumping near an un-compacted edge such as an embankment or canyon, dump well back from the edge and push the material over with a dozer.
- Trucks should dump with the tractor and the trailer in a straight line.
- Watch and observe the trucks as they dump. A truck or driver that continuously struggles to get unloaded is an accident waiting to happen on your job. A good driver operating a sound truck in good dumping conditions should be able to dump the load easily and effortlessly and head back for another round without delay.

Special thanks to the WCSN Network and The Lansing State Journal (www.lsj.com)