

FATALGRAM

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Date of Accident: July 11, 2006

Heavy Equipment Rental

An employee was crushed between a goose neck attachment of a low boy and the rear suspension of a rock dump truck. He was loading the rock dump truck on a low boy for a return trip to the rental yard.

Description of Accident: The victim was doing a loading operation to place a large rock dump truck on a low boy trailer for return to a rental equipment yard when the dump truck rolled back off the rear of the low boy trailer crushing the employee. The dump truck was left with the engine idling, gear shift in neutral and brake was set. The owner did not block the wheels of the dump truck to immobilize any movement by the dump truck. The dump truck had been working at the pipe laying excavation site on the installation and connection of a water and sewer piping system to a new hospital. The employee was crushed between the goose neck on the trailer and rear axel structure of the dump truck.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Establish, implement and execute an effective procedure to prevent roll-back of heavy equipment placed on low-boy trailers.
- Follow manufacturer's guidance to block wheels when parking on incline.
- Train and supervise employees exposed to hazards involving heavy equipment while loading and unloading.
- Instruct employees in recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions.
- Equipment when parked shall have the parking brake set and if the equipment is on an incline the wheels chocked and parking brake set.
- An employer should have a written safety program which includes enforcement and discipline procedures to ensure that employees follow the employer's safety requirements. The employer should take steps to discover employee violations and document disciplinary action taken.