

# FATALGRAM

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Date of Accident: October 09, 2006

Construction Industry

**An employee operating a small single drum roller /compactor drifted into a two foot ditch, flipped over pinning the operator, causing death by compression asphyxia.**

**Description of Accident:** The victim was operating a small drum roller, compacting a roadway, when the drum roller drifted into a two foot ditch and flipped over. This caused the driver to slide out of the seat as the machine tipped and land on the ground in the path of the grab bar. The bar is used to assist the operator in climbing the two steps to the platform on the roller. The operator was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the accident.

## **ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- A hazard awareness assessment should be done at the job site prior to starting work.
- Ensure that workers using heavy equipment are familiar with the types and ratings of equipment and that they operate the equipment in a safe manner.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations as to the use of seat belts with the equipment.
- 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.