

## Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Mid-Atlantic **Safety Lessons Learned Accident Abstract**

**Accident Type:** CAUGHT BETWEEN  
**Injury:** FATALITY  
**Damage:** CONVEYOR SYSTEM DAMAGED  
**Type of Work:** CRUSHING PILES OF CONCRETE  
**Equipment:** PORTABLE CONVEYOR SYSTEM



### DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCIDENT:

- ◆ Employee climbed between an upper and lower conveyor belt and attempted to clear an obstruction of rebar caught between two belts. Another employee pushed on the upper belt with a skid loader to help clear the ball of rebar apparently causing the upper conveyor to slide off the supports and fall, crushing fellow employee between conveyor belts resulting in the death of one employee.

### DIRECT CAUSE:

- No standard operating procedures for use or maintenance of equipment.

### INDIRECT CAUSE:

- ◆ Safety Plan which did not the requirement of EM-385 –1-1
- ◆ No Safety Section 01525
- ◆ No preparatory meeting for this activity.
- ◆ No AHA for the work.
- ◆ Failure of superintendent to ensure EM-385 safety requirements was met.
- ◆ Failure of superintendent to be on site during hours of operation.
- ◆ Failure of superintendent to ensure new personnel had received safety indoctrination and familiar with hazards associated with the work.

### ROOT CAUSE:

- ◆ Ineffective control of subcontractor site safety and implementation of EM-385-1-1 safety procedures on site.
- ◆ Prime contractor took no responsibility for sub contractor actions and considered the subcontractor to be a separate operation from his activities.

### LESSONS LEARNED:

- ◆ This contract should have been issued as a construction contract with full safety and QA oversight.
- ◆ PWD Service CSR safety training should equal safety training of construction ETs.
- ◆ The site superintendent and QC manager must attend pre-construction and pre-performance meetings. The meeting shall be rescheduled if they fail to attend.
- ◆ A process for documenting actions taken in the field to ensure safe working conditions needs to be developed for service contracts. Similar to daily reports used by construction & required by P-445.
- ◆ Include FAR 52.236-13 and NFGS 01525 in all MIDLANT service contracts.