

## **6. Struck by Steel Sheeting**

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A **26-year-old** employee of an excavator fabrication company died after being struck by steel sheeting. After his dinner break, the victim began assembling the first of five large steel panels that would become the main sections of the back hoe and front end loader buckets the company manufactured. The steel panel weighted approximately 2,611 pounds and was nine-feet-seven inches long and six feet-three-inches wide. The victim welded several parts to one side of the panel. After the parts were attached, the victim welded a square ring to the end of the panel using three tacks on one side and one weld on the other. This ring was to be used to lift and flip the panel over by using the hook attached to a five-ton overhead crane. Once the ring was welded in place the victim flipped the panel over and welded some steel parts onto the reverse side of the panel. Once he had completed welding the parts onto the panel, he used the crane and hook to lift the panel and move it to the staging area near the bending machine. When the victim got the panel to the location where he was going to place it, the square ring that the crane was hooked into broke free from the panel. The victim was standing directly in front of the panel and the panel was angled toward him. When the square ring broke off, the panel fell, and he could not get away from the falling panel with the bending machine directly beside him. The panel fell on the victim, fatally crushing him. No one witnessed the incident, but co-workers heard the crash and came to investigate.

### **Citation(s) as Originally Issued**

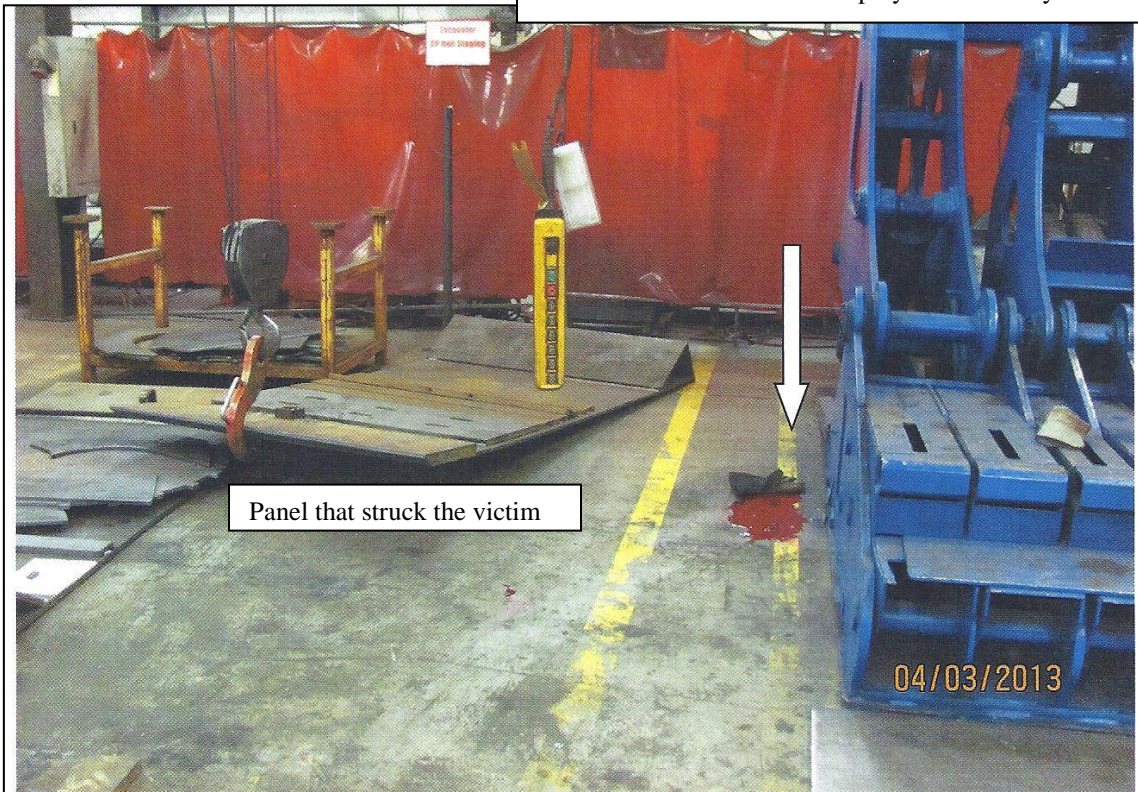
Additional citations were issued not related to the fatality.

### **Citation 1**

Item 1a T.C.A. 50-3-105(1)	The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees in that the square ring used to lift the approximately 2611-pound steel plate was not welded properly onto the plate.
Item 1b T.C.A. 50-3-105(1)	The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees in that many below-the-hook lifting devices used to move large pieces of steel were not marked with a load rating and that the devices were not periodically inspected.
Item 1c T.C.A. 50-3-105(1)	The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees in that the racks that were used for storage in the machine shop were not secured by bolting down the front and rear posts of the racks.

**See Photo on Next Page**

Arrow indicates where the employees was hit by the steel panel



Panel that struck the victim

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