

## **Caught in chain & sprocket– Inspection #1113891**

A **57 year old male** employee was fatally injured when his coat was caught between a chain and sprocket, pulling him into a lumber sorting conveyor. On the day of the accident, the victim was working on the “green chain” as a lumber stacker. After a log is cut into lumber, the pieces move to the “green chain” for grading and sorting. Employees along the “green chain” remove the lumber from the conveyor, and stack the graded lumber for shipment. The victim reached between two moving chains on the conveyor to retrieve a piece of lumber that had fallen. As he reached over the moving chain, his coat was caught between the chain and sprocket, pulling him into the conveyor and wedging his body between the drive system and conveyor framework. The conveyor was not de-energized before the victim reached down to retrieve the fallen lumber. During the investigation it was determined, that the employer did not have a jam clearing procedure in place, no lockout/tagout equipment, program or training, and no guards were in place at the chain and sprocket drive on the conveyor system of the “green chain”.

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

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

#### **Citation 1 Item 1a**

29 CFR 1910.132(d)(1)	The employer did not assess the workplace to determine if hazard were present, or likely to be present, which necessitate the use of personal protective equipment. In that a hazard assessment had not been conducted to determine appropriate personal protective equipment for employees.
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#### **Citation 1 Item 1b**

29 CFR 1910.133(a)(1)	Protective eye equipment was not required where there was a reasonable probability of injury that could be prevented by such equipment. In that employees were not required to wear eye protection when working at the facility with flying debris in the air from wood being processed in the saw mill.
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#### **Citation 1 Item 1c**

29 CFR 1910.136(a)	The employer did not require employees to use protective footwear when employees’ feet are exposed to foot injuries due to falling or rolling objects, or objects piercing the sole, or when the use of protective footwear will protect the affected employee from an electrical hazard, that remains after the employer take other necessary protective measures. In that employees are not required to wear protective footwear when working in the saw mill.
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**Citation 1 Item 1d**

29 CFR 1910.138(a)	The employer did not select and require employees to use appropriate hand protection when employees' hands are exposed to hazards such as those from skin absorption of harmful substances; severe cuts or lacerations; severe abrasions; punctures; chemical burns; thermal burns; and harmful temperature extremes. In that employees are not required to wear hand protection when stacking lumber at the site.
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**Citation 1 Item 2**

29 CFR 1910.147(c)(1)	The employer did not establish an energy control program consisting of energy control procedures, employee training and periodic inspections to ensure that before any employee performed any servicing or maintenance on a machine or equipment where the unexpected energizing, start up or release of stored energy could occur and cause injury, the machine or equipment would be isolated and rendered inoperable. In that a lockout/tagout program was not in place to address the servicing/maintenance of equipment.
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**Citation 1 Item 3**

29 CFR 1910.219(f)(3)	Sprockets and chains which were seven feet or less above floors or platforms were not enclosed. In that there was no guard in place over the drive end of the chain conveyor located at the "green chain".
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**Citation 2 Item 1**

29 CFR 1910.151(b)	In the absence of an infirmary, clinic or hospital in near proximity to the workplace which is used for the treatment of all injured employees, a person or persons were not adequately trained to render first aid. In that there were not employees on site trained to render First Aid.
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**Citation 2 Item 2**

29 CFR 1910.178(l)(1)(i)	Operators were not trained in the safe operation of powered industrial trucks as demonstrated by the successful completion of the training and evaluation specified in this paragraph. In that employees working in the sawmill were allowed to move bundles of lumber using a forklift without having completed powered industrial truck training and without being evaluated.
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**Citation 2 Item 3**

TDLWD Rule 0800-1-3-.03(27)(a)	The log of all work-related injuries and illnesses (OSHA Form 300), and/or the summary of work-related injuries and illnesses, (OSHA Form 300-A), and/or the injury and illness incident report (OSHA Form 301) or equivalent forms were not maintained by the establishment: In that a)the employer did not maintain the OSHA 300 and 300A log for 2012; b) the employer did not maintain the OSHA 300 and 300A log for 2013; c) the employer did not maintain the OSHA 300 and 300A log for 2014; d) the employer did not maintain the OSHA 300 log for 2015.
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Photo 1 of 1 – Photo of the “green chain” with conveyor chain and sprocket. The victim reached over the chain to retrieve a piece of lumber that had fallen.