8 Struck by super-sack of sand – Inspection #1146807

A 56 year old male employee was fatally injured when he was struck by a super-sack of sand burying him underneath. On the day of the accident, the victim attempted to patch a hole in a super-sack containing “tap hole” sand used in an electric arc furnace during the molten metal pouring process. The super-sacks were stored shrink wrapped onto pallets, and stacked two pallets high. As the victim was patching the hole at ground level, the sack shape changed, making the second tier of super-sacks unstable. The 4000lb super-sack stored on top struck the victim burying him underneath.

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 1

| 29 CFR 1910.176(b) | Material stored in tiers was not stacked, blocked, interlocked or limited in height so that it was stable and secure against sliding and collapse. In that 4000lbs super-sacks of tap hole sand located in the Brick Shed were double stacked creating an unstable condition which exposed employees to a crushed by hazard. |

Photo 1 of 1 – The lower tiered super-sack of tap hole sand (yellow circle) where the hole was located.