

1 Struck by work platform – Inspection #1200845

A **59 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he was struck by the basket of a work-platform on a bridge overhang buggy. On the day of the incident, a bridge maintenance crew was attaching structural plates to a bridge in downtown Nashville. At the end of the work day, a bridge overhang buggy, or movable work-platform, that is suspended from the top of the bridge, so that workers can access the structures under the bridge, was raised from its working position, secured in its towing position, and was being towed from the site by a Dodge 2500 truck. The buggy, in towing position, is not centered behind the truck, and the basket surrounding the work-platform sticks out to the right side approximately 7 feet. During the evening, employees were moving construction barrels out of the way to allow room for the overhang buggy to be hauled away by the truck. The victim turned his back to look towards traffic, and was struck by the basket of the work-platform on the approaching buggy. During the inspection it was determined that a detailed path of travel for the truck and buggy was not clearly communicated between the driver and employees.

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

TCA 50-3-105(1)	<p>Each employer did not furnish to each of its employees conditions of employment and a place of employment free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious injury or harm to its employees.</p> <p>In that employees were exposed to struck-by hazards while moving construction barrels out of the path of an overhang buggy which was being pulled behind a truck. There were no clear line of communication between the driver and the employees standing on the roadway, nor was there a clear plan communicated to the employees who would detail the path of travel for the driver and the equipment. Among other methods, one feasible and acceptable means of abatement to correct this hazard is to ensure movement of equipment in road construction areas is understood by all employees involved, and that spotters or similar means are used when equipment operators are unable to see the load they are moving, particularly at night.</p>
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Photo 1 of 1 –The yellow arrow indicates the right-rear side of overhang buggy basket that struck the victim.