

27 Struck by vehicle – Inspection #1261280

A **58 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he was struck by a yard truck that was attempting to back-up to a trailer. On the night of the incident, it is believed that the victim was walking toward trailer number 17 while another employee was backing a truck to trailer 14 when the victim was struck by the truck and became briefly pinned between the truck and trailer. Once a trailer is loaded and ready for delivery that trailer is billed-out and then the glad-hand lock is removed by an employee. Trailer 14 had been billed-out, therefore the victim exited the facility to remove the glad-hand lock. Additionally, the victim was also tasked with removing lock on trailer 8 and applying a lock to trailer 17 as he exited the facility. Although it is unknown exactly why the victim walked between the truck and trailer, the TOSHA investigation revealed a possible scenario. A reasonable situation would be that the victim forgot to apply the lock to trailer 17 as he started toward trailer 8, therefore immediately turned around and walked toward trailer 17 which put him in the path of the backing truck and trailer 14. The victim had trailer locks 14 and 17 in his possession after the incident and trailer 8 lock had not been removed. Additional factors that may have contributed to the victim being struck are the lack of lighting and it was raining on the night of the incident. Due to the rain, the victim was wearing a raincoat with hood on which could have partially obstructed his view and hindered his ability to hear the truck's back-up alarm. The combination of these factors may have kept the victim from realizing that he was in the danger zone. Citation was issued for inadequate lighting in the truck yard.

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>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.</p> <p>In that the employees were exposed to struck-by hazards due to inadequate lighting at the exterior area of the loading docks where employees are required to remove and apply glad-hand locks on trailers.</p>
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Photo 1 of 2 – The truck involved in the incident



Photo 2 of 2 – The photo is a view from the rear of the truck being backed toward the trailer. The red arrow indicates the victim's direction of travel just before he was struck. The yellow arrows indicate the approximate area on the trailer and truck where the victim was pinned. The red star indicates approximate locate of the victim after the incident.