

### 33 Struck by cargo loader – Inspection 1279827

A **60 year old female** employee was fatally injured when she was struck by the auxiliary deck that was attached to a cargo loader. The victim was defined as the E-Stop Controller who along with a Guide Person and Loader Operator was responsible for moving the cargo loader with attached auxiliary deck into position for unloading cargo inside a Boeing 777 aircraft. The B777 aircraft is unique from other aircraft used by FedEx in that the main cargo door is located aft of the wing whereas all other aircraft cargo doors are in front of the wings. Due to the position of the cargo door the auxiliary deck is attached to right side of the loader so that the loader, cargo containers, and tugs maintain a safe distance from the aircraft's wing. This set-up along with the placement of the e-stop pendent box required the victim to be in front of the auxiliary deck. The e-stop controller is responsible for obtaining the e-stop pendent when the loader is approximately 50 feet from the aircraft. The e-stop controller is responsible for ensuring that the cargo loader does not make contact with the aircraft. The left-hand drive Commander 30H Cargo Loader is the only loader used on the B777 aircrafts. While operating this type of loader, the operator positioned at their controls cannot see the e-stop controller when they attempt to retrieve the e-stop pendent. As the loader operator moved the cargo loader slowly toward the aircraft, the guide person noticed the e-stop pendent dragging on the ground and noticed the victim had been run over by the wheels of the auxiliary deck.

#### 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><b>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.</b></p> <p>In that employees were not protected from struck-by hazards while performing activities associated with unloading cargo from a Boeing 777 aircraft with Commander 30H Cargo Loader.</p>
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Photo 1 of 1 – Photos shows a view of the Commander 30H Cargo Loader with auxiliary deck attached. The blue arrow is indicating the auxiliary deck that struck the victim. The e-stop pendent box is indicated by the green arrow. The operator controls are located in the upper right side of the photo.