

# Fall - Inspection #1853592

A 53-year-old male was wiring a lamp post while working from a homemade platform basket that had been elevated to a height of 7 feet 6 inches on the forks of a CAT Model 255 Compact Track Loader. The employee leaned over the side to hand another employee a fish tape, causing the basket to tip over. The employee fell out of the basket and the basket fell on top of him, fatally injuring him.

## Citations 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 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1926.21(b)(2): The employer did not instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to his work environment to control or eliminate any hazards or other exposure to illness or injury.

In that the employer did not ensure that the employees who were working with heavy material handling equipment, such as loaders, had received adequate training to be able to recognize potential hazards associated with the job and be able to protect themselves from such hazards, including using unsafe attachments with the equipment.

Proposed Penalty: \$2,050

### Citation 1 Item 2 Type of Violation: Serious

29 CFR 1926.451(c)(2)(iv): Front-end loaders and similar pieces of equipment were used to support scaffold platforms when they were not specifically designed by the manufacturer for such use:

In that employees used a homemade platform basket placed on the forks of a CAT Model 255 Compact Track Loader at a height of approximately 7 feet 6 inches to wire lampposts, on October 1, 2025, the basket fell from the forks, fatally injuring an employee.

Proposed Penalty: \$7,000

## **Citation 2 Item 1 Type of Violation: Other-than Serious**

29 CFR 1926.50(c): In the absence of an infirmary, clinic, hospital, or physician, that is reasonably accessible in terms of time and distance to the worksite, which is available for the treatment of injured employees, a person who has a valid certificate in first-aid training from the U.S. Bureau of Mines, the American Red Cross, or equivalent training that can be verified by documentary evidence, was not available at the worksite to render first aid:

In that no employees on site were trained and certified to render first aid, and the nearest urgent care facility, MMC Now Family Walk-In Clinic, located at 2658 New Salem Hwy, Murfreesboro, TN 37128, was approximately 3.2 miles (8 minutes) from the work site.

Proposed Penalty: \$0



**⚠ WARNING!** The loader is a one-person machine. Avoid death or serious injury — **never permit riders!** **Never use the bucket, forks, or other attachments as a work platform or personnel carrier.**

**⚠ WARNING!** To avoid serious injury or death, never lift, swing, or move a load over anyone. **Keep others away from your operation.**

**Back up Safely**