

19. Crushed Between Parts of Tire Assembly Machine

A **51-year-old** manufacturing worker was killed while working on the night shift building truck tires at a tire assembly machine. No one witnessed the incident, but the victim was found pinned in the machine with his chest and abdomen on the drum of the machine and the *inner liner tray* and *now-server* on top of his back. He was building the tire around the drum which rotated while he applied layers of rubber and adhesive; the *inner liner tray* is a small conveyor that brings the sheets of rubber down to the operator and the *now-server* is a guide that helps the operator line up the sheets of rubber. To build a tire, the victim stood directly in front of the drum and cycled the machine to bring down the *inner liner tray* and *now-server* with foot pedals. Typically the tire machine operator walks away to get the next layers of rubber while the *inner liner tray* and *now-server* are moving; however, for some reason the victim was standing in a position where those parts of the machine came down and pinned him between them and the drum. Since there was a safety mat (should not allow the machine to cycle when someone is standing on it) in place in front of the machine, the victim was either standing on top of the foot pedal cover, thus bypassing the safety mat, and leaning in over the drum, or he was standing on the safety mat, leaning over the drum and the safety mat failed. The *inner liner tray* and *now-server* put approximately 1400-1500 pounds of pressure on the victim, compressing his body and preventing his breathing. When he was found, CPR was begun and EMS was called. He was life flight to the hospital where he died 7 days later.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

Citation 1

Item 1 1910.212(a)(1)	One or more methods of machine guarding was not provided to protect the operator and other employees in the machine area from hazards such as those created by point of operation, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, flying chips, and sparks.
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Before the incident



After the incident

