

A **26 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he was **struck by** a cart loaded with MDF wood panels as he and another were removing it from a box truck using the truck's lift gate system.

The driver of the delivery truck and the victim were tasked with delivering a shipment of MDF wood panels to a construction site. Each 4-foot x 8-foot MDF wall panel weighs approximately 66 pounds. They successfully unloaded the first load of 10 each MDF wall panels from the box truck and placed them in a material staging area.

They loaded the second load of 10 each MDF wall panels onto the cart. The victim was standing on the ground near the middle of the cart steadying the cart by holding onto the cart's handle at the bottom as the lift gate and cart were lowered to the driveway level. When the wall panels and the cart were about 2' off the driveway level, the wall panels and the cart fell over striking the victim and pinning him on the driveway surface.

Neither person had been trained on proper lifting/lowering procedures using the truck's lift gate.

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

Type of Violation: Serious

\$4000

TCA 50-3-105(1): 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 in the following instances:

In that:

- a. an employee was struck by several medium density fiberboard (MDF) wall panels when they fell over while being lowered to the driveway using a platform lift gate on a box truck. The employee was steadying the cart on which the panels were placed during the lowering process.
- b. two employees were not trained how to safely use the lift gate to unload MDF wall panels from the box truck.

20 struck by wall panels--Inspection #1438658 Maverick Millwork LLC

