

FATALGRAM

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Date of Accident: October 6, 2004

Transportation Industry

A tractor-trailer driver dies from complications sustained by a fall while working unsupervised.

Description of Accident: A truck driver died during surgery as a result of complications sustained by a fall from the top of a tractor-trailer. The cause or causes of the incident is in question, because he was working unsupervised at the time he fell. He was not wearing fall protection.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Perform a personal protective equipment hazard assessment and provide necessary fall protection equipment to minimize fall hazards.
- Train all employees on the use of fall protection equipment.
- Any near misses or accidents should be investigated, evaluated and used as training tools to avoid future accidents.
- An employer should have a written safety program which includes enforcement and discipline procedures to ensure that employees follow the employer's safety requirements. The employer should take steps to discover employee violations and document disciplinary action taken.