Lonestar Prospects Ltd.
Vista Sand

Fatal Accident: February 26, 2016
Overview

• February 26, 2016 Elvin T. Terrell, delivery truck driver, age 61 was fatally injured when a 50 foot section of PVC pipe fell on him.

• He was securing tie down straps on the driver’s side of his flatbed trailer

• A section of pipe rolled off the top of the load and struck him.
Information

Read the sections entitled “Description of Accident” and “Discussion” on pages 3-6 of the Accident Investigation report.
Information

• Were the ratchet straps adequate to hold the weight of the pipe sections?
• Were the ratchet straps in use?
• Did it appear that adequate information was available to the truck driver regarding safe loading and unloading procedures?
• Were training or experience a factor in this accident?
Accident Cause

What was the cause of the accident?
MSHA Root Cause

Management’s policies and work procedures were inadequate and failed to ensure that a truck load of pipe was unloaded in a manner that did not create a hazard to persons.
MSHA Corrective Action

Management established the following mandatory policies and controls:

- A completion of a Load Assessment Risk form
- Freight Loading and Unloading Site Specific sign off form
- Load Assessment form
- Set pedestrian danger zones and safe zones to ensure that pipe can be unloaded from trucks in a manner that does not create a hazard to persons
Accident Prevention

What could have prevented this accident?
Outline proper procedure for performing this task
MSHA Best Practices

• Analyze all tasks, identify possible hazards prior and eliminate the risks prior to beginning work.
• Before beginning work, establish safe work procedures, train and discuss with all persons performing the task.
• Examine work areas during the shift for hazards that may be created as a result of the work being performed.
MSHA Best Practices

• Evaluate the stability of the material before unfastening a load. Pay particular attention to loads that may have shifted or become unstable during transport.

• Install secondary supports (side stakes) of adequate height and strength to prevent material from falling when the load is unfastened; or prior to unfastening the material, secure the item being unloaded to the machine used in the unloading process.
MSHA Best Practices

• Stand clear of items of massive weights having the potential of becoming off-balanced while being loaded or unloaded.

• Implement measures to ensure persons are properly positioned and protected from hazards while performing a task. Ground personnel should be highly visible. Unauthorized persons should be kept clear of the area.