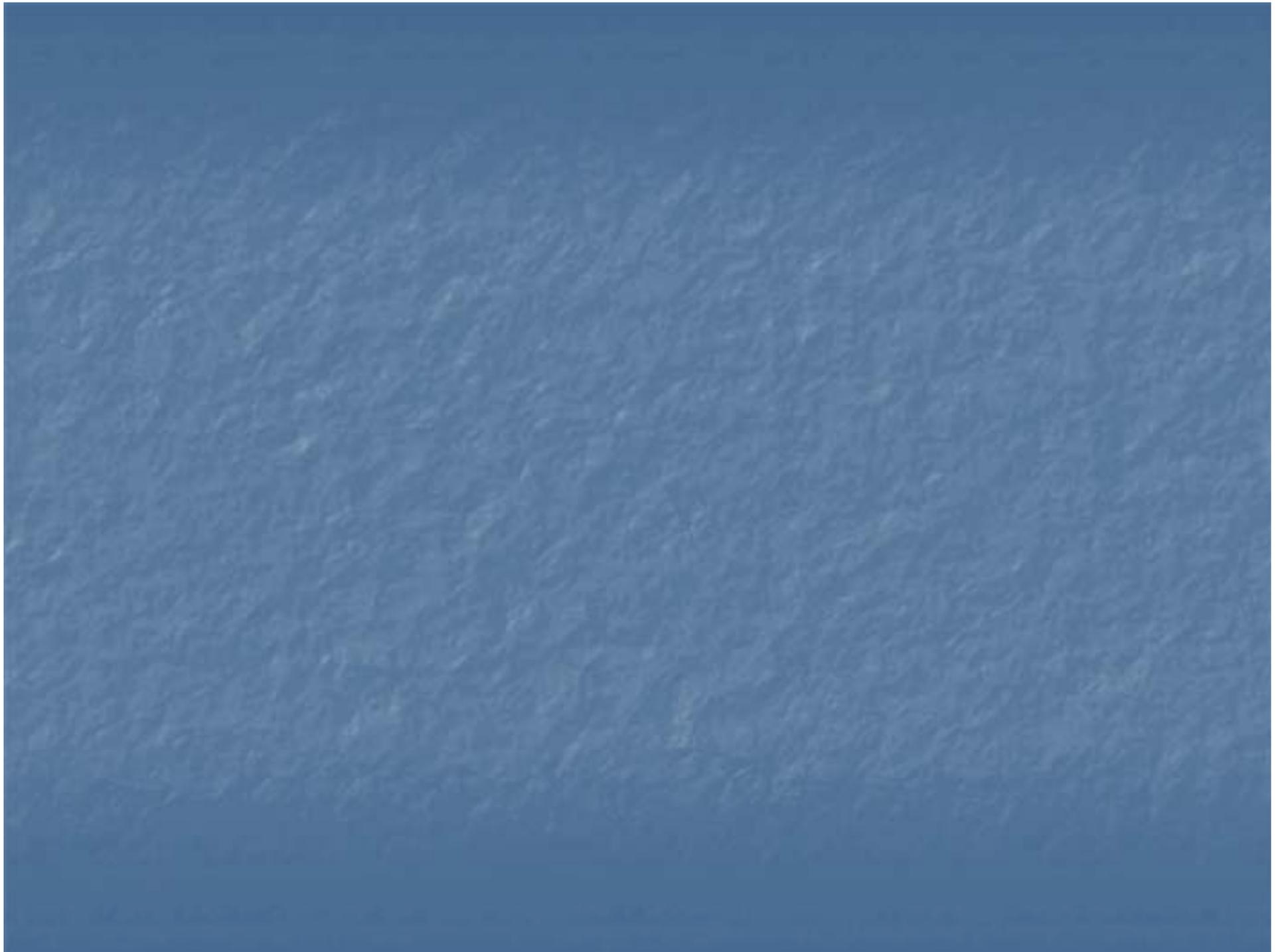


MNMM Fatal 2005-11

- Falling Material
- May 23, 2005 (Wisconsin)
- Sand and Gravel Operation
- General Laborer
- 57 years old
- 8 years mining experience

Overview

- The victim and a co-worker were attempting to load a 10 foot by 5 foot by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch steel plate onto a flatbed truck. A front-end loader was used to lift the plate with a chain hook while the victim steadied the plate with his hand, standing on the edge of the truck bed. As the plate was lowered into the truck bed, it detached from the hook and struck the victim, causing him to fall from the truck bed to the ground below. The steel plate then fell from the truck bed landing on the victim causing fatal crushing injuries.



Why Did Accident Occur?

- The accident occurred because the procedures and equipment used to load the steel plate were inadequate. The victim had to stand in the bed of the truck and guide the suspended plate by hand because the rigging system used did not control the steel plate.

Causal Factors

- Management policies and controls were inadequate. Procedures were not in place to ensure suitable hitches, slings, and tag lines were used to load the steel plate into the truck bed. The hook came out of the hole in the plate as it was loaded onto the truck.

Best Practices

- Conduct a Risk Assessment before beginning a task, to evaluate the work procedures, identify all possible hazards, and ensure steps are taken to safely perform the task.
- Establish procedures to safely complete tasks and ensure miners communicate clearly with each other.
- Ensure that miners are not positioned in areas where they are exposed to hazards from suspended loads.
- Use hitches and slings that are suitable for the material being lifted. Ensure that taglines are used when loads require guidance or steadying.