

# New Mexico Occupational Safety & Health

# FATAL FACTS



No. 8775-004

Accident Type:	Crushing/caught between
Number of Fatalities	1
Weather Conditions:	Clear
Type of Operation:	Fertilizer sales
Size of Work Crew:	6
Competent Safety Monitor on Site:	
Safety and Health Program in Effect:	Yes
Was the Worksite Inspected Regularly:	
Training and Education Provided:	Yes
Employees Job Titles:	Equipment operator
Age & Gender:	54-M
Experience at this Type of Work:	1 day
Time on Project:	5 hours



## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

An employee is presumed to have attempted to close a storage bin door in a fertilizer barn by himself. The employee pulled his skid loader into the storage bin and raised the tractor's lift arms using the bucket to support the top hinged door so that he could release the pins which held the door open. When the employee exited the loader, he apparently made contact with the pedal that lowers the bucket causing him to become pinned between the tractor arm and the cab of the tractor.

## INSPECTION RESULTS

As the result of its investigation, NM OSHA issued a citation for one serious violation of its construction standards.

## ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Employers must instruct each employee in the safe and proper guidelines as stated in the operator's manual for the skid loader. Before exiting the skid loader, lower the lift arms, put the attachment flat on the ground.

**NOTE:** The case described here was selected as being representative of fatalities caused by improper work practices. No special emphasis or priority is implied nor is the case necessarily a recent occurrence. The legal aspects of the incident have been resolved, and the case is now closed.