

Occupational Fatality Hotline

Please report work-related fatalities immediately to:

1-800-338-5223 **617-624-5696** (fax)

When reporting a fatality, include the following:

- Reporter's name, address and phone
- Victim's name, occupation and employer
- Brief description of incident, including date and time

For more information

In you have any questions concerning the FACE Project, are interested in obtaining written materials, or arranging a presentation on the prevention of workplace injuries, please contact us at:

The FACE Project
Occupational Health Surveillance Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
250 Washington Street, 6th fl.
Boston, MA 02108-4619

617-624-5627



Your cooperation and assistance is increasing the safety of workers and making the FACE Program a success are greatly appreciated.

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FATALITY ASSESSMENT & CONTROL EVALUATION



Occupational Health Surveillance Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

What is FACE?

Face is an occupational injury prevention program conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. FACE staff investigate workplace fatalities with the aim of identifying workplace factors that increase the risk of fatal injury. Through its investigation program, FACE aims to:

- Understand the causes of workplace fatal injuries
- Help employers and employees to develop more effective safety programs
- Prevent future workplace fatalities by distributing information on identified hazards and recommended solutions



The Massachusetts FACE Project is one of fifteen FACE projects nationwide, funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

What FACE is not!

FACE staff do not evaluate compliance with occupational safety and health standards or determine fault. Many factors contribute to an event in which a worker dies. FACE investigations consider all these factors, and do not focus on who was to blame.

What is an Employer's role?

Employers are asked to answer questions about their safety program and on the events leading to a worker's death. FACE staff visit and photograph the incident site, and discuss the incident with witnesses. Witness statements are anonymously recorded.

How is this information used?

FACE staff write reports on their investigations with recommendations to prevent similar fatalities. Engineering faculty at UMass Lowell assist FACE in identifying technological solutions to hazards.

- FACE reports do not contain personal identifiers (no names of victims, coworkers, employers, or incident sites).
- The reports are distributed to trade associations, unions, government agencies, and health and safety professionals.
- The data are used to support the development of national workplace safety standards and policies.

The toll of workplace fatalities in Massachusetts, 1991-1999

- 633 workers died from work-related injuries (an average of one to two workers each week).
- Two-thirds of the workers killed were in the prime of their lives (45 years of age or younger). Six victims were less than 18 years of age.
- The construction and fishing industries had the highest rates of fatal injuries.
- More workers (136) died in construction than any other single industry. Falls to lower levels were the leading fatal event among construction workers.
- Older workers (65 years of age or older) had a high rate of fatal injuries.

Traumatic Occupational Fatalities by Cause Massachusetts 1991-1999 Total 633

