

Crushed by cargo tug – Inspection #1107791

A **39 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he fell off the cargo TUG he was operating and was run over by a dolly. On the day of the incident, the victim was operating a cargo TUG with three dollies attached, each with the capability of carrying approximately 2,300 lbs. The TUGs are used to carry “cans” loaded with materials to and from the cargo aircraft. The victim picked up the cargo TUG early in the morning, and approximately one hour later, security found the victim under the first dolly. There were no witnesses to the incident, but it was determined during the investigation, that the victim possibly fell off the cargo TUG during operation. A seatbelt was provided on the cargo TUG, but he was not wearing it at the time of the accident.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1

TCA 50-3-105(1)	Each employer did not furnish to each of its employees conditions of employment and a place of employment free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees. In that the cargo handling vehicle (TUG) operators were not protected from ejection hazards while operating the vehicles. Feasible and acceptable abatement, among other, include equipping all cargo handling vehicles with seat belts and requiring the use of seatbelts while the vehicle is in operation.
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Photo 1 of 1 – Front view of the TUG carrying a “can” on a dolly.