



# CRANE OPERATOR CRUSHED!

## UNSECURED LOAD FALLS DURING RIGGING

In a recent incident, a 45-year-old crane operator, Raymond C.\*, died while rigging a load. A tractor-trailer driver unstrapped the load to ready it for lifting. Raymond climbed onto the load during rigging and it rolled off the trailer and crushed him. The tractor-trailer driver was not at a meeting earlier that day where drivers were told that their loads had to be kept strapped until rigging was finished.

### WHAT WENT WRONG?

The tractor-trailer driver unstrapped the load too soon.

The tractor-trailer driver did not know about the instruction to keep the loads strapped.

### WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

Keep unstable loads secured until rigging is finished and the load is supported by a crane.

Make sure all workers and sub-contractors are kept informed of hazards and safe work procedures.

The California Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) program has been investigating work-related deaths since 1992. The goal of the FACE program is to prevent these deaths by informing workers and managers of worksite hazards and how to avoid them.

For complete fatality reports of this case (01CA006), or other cases, and additional information on the California FACE program, please contact:  
California Department of Public Health  
Occupational Health Branch (OHB), FACE Program  
850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, 3rd Floor, Richmond, CA 94804  
(510) 620-5757  
[www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/ohb-face](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/ohb-face)  
CA Relay Service: 711 or (800) 735-2929 (hearing/speech impaired)

To obtain a copy of this document in an alternate format, please contact OHB at (510) 620-5757. Allow at least 10 days to coordinate alternate format services.

\* Not the victim's real name

# PLEASE POST

California Department of Public Health  
Occupational Health Branch, FACE Program  
850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, 3rd Floor  
Richmond, CA 94804

**FACE stands for "Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation."** The purpose of the **FACE** program is to identify hazards that may cause work-related deaths so that employers and employees can help prevent them. **FACE** is a program run by the Occupational Health Branch within the California Department of Public Health, and funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor  
State of California  
Kimberly Belshe, Secretary  
Health and Human Services Agency  
Mark B. Horton, Director  
Department of Public Health  
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