



TWO WORKERS KILLED IN STEEL SLITTING MACHINERY!

In recent incidents, two machine operator helpers, 18-year-old Pedro N.*, and 37-year-old Jaime C.*, died while helping co-workers operate steel slitting machinery. Both apprentices were crushed in between layers of steel being wound into large rolls. Pedro and Jaime were pulled into the steel slitting machines when they got caught in the moving steel. There were no barriers or safety interlock devices that prevented the workers from entering the unsafe areas of the machines where they were killed.

WHAT WENT WRONG?

The steel slitting machines had open areas (pinch points) where the workers were caught in moving parts or steel.

Pedro and Jaime worked too close to large, unprotected, fast-moving rolls of steel.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

Machine pinch points should be physically guarded or have safety interlock systems.

Workers should not operate or work near running machinery pinch points if the machinery has no guarding/interlock, or if the guarding/interlock is defective, or if it has been bypassed.**

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 these (05CA003 & 06CA002), or other cases, and additional information on the California FACE program, 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

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. Please allow at least 10 working days to coordinate alternate format services.

* Not the victim's real name

** Exceptions may be made in some work situations where long-handled tools are used.

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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