



# CARDBOARD BALERS CRUSH WORKERS!

65-year-old Simon H.\* and 64-year-old Jose G.\* died after being crushed in a machine that compresses cardboard for recycling (cardboard baler). Both Simon and Jose climbed into the balers while they were turned on. There were not enough guards to prevent workers from entering the balers. Simon and Jose may have been trying to clear a jam when they were crushed.

## WHAT WENT WRONG?

Simon and Jose were able climb into the balers.

Simon and Jose climbed into balers that were turned on.

## WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

Make sure balers have guards that keep workers out of the points of operation.

Make sure workers are trained in and follow a lockout/tagout program to shut off power before they reach or climb into balers.

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 a complete report of these (09CA005 & 09CA009) or other cases, and information on the California FACE Program, contact:

California Department of Public Health  
Occupational Health Branch (OHB), FACE Program  
850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, Third Floor, Richmond, CA 94804  
OHB phone: (510) 620-5757  
CA Relay Service: (800) 735-2929 (hearing/speech impaired)  
Please allow at least ten working days to produce this document in an alternate format.

[California FACE Program's website](http://cdph.ca.gov/face) (<http://cdph.ca.gov/face>)

\* Not the victim's real name

# PLEASE POST

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FACE stands for "Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation." The purpose of the FACE program is to find problems that may cause work-related deaths so that employers and employees can help prevent them.

FACE is a public health program run by the California Department of Public Health, Occupational Health Branch, and funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

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Health and Human Services Agency  
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