



**THIS INFORMATION CAN
SAVE LIVES AND MONEY**

*If your company
has never
experienced loss
due to accident
or tragedy,
you are blessed.*

*In the greatest
country in the world,
6
six construction workers
are killed each day.*

*Safe-T-Net
publishes this
complimentary
newsletter with
the goal of reducing
those statistics.*



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Supervisor in a Hurry Now Has Time to Ponder Man's Death

Incident Summary: A supervisor who wanted to get a job done quickly told an untrained worker to handle it. Now the supervisor must live with the fact that a 39-yr.-old crew member died on his watch.

The Damage: A supervisor told two workers to clean a skylight. Because he wanted the job done quickly, the supervisor gave no direction to the men, neither of whom had handled the task before.

The workers secured a ladder and one of them climbed onto the roof. The other held the ladder.

The worker on the roof began using a broom to sweep debris off the skylight, which was 4 ft. wide and 8 ft. long. It had a fiberglass cover. But the worker applied too much pressure to the broom, causing the handle to snap.

The crew member lost his balance and fell through the skylight. He struck a sprinkler pipe and tumbled 17 ft. to the building floor.

When the coworker heard a thump, he climbed the ladder. He ran over to the skylight and looked down. He couldn't believe what he saw.

The coworker called out for the supervisor. The two men went to the victim, who was still breathing.

They carried to the staffer to the coworker's car. He raced his mate to the hospital.

At first, it appeared that the victim might survive. Eight days later, though, he died in the hospital.

Findings: The supervisor didn't recognize the hazards of the task. For one thing, the worker should not have been allowed to handle such a potentially dangerous job without proper training.

And some sort of fall protection, such as a screen, guardrails, or a personal fall arrest system (PFAS), should have been used.



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