

1. The accident occurred in the vehicle repair shop. While walking across the shop the driver stumbled, lost balance and fell into the vehicle inspection pit.

The accident happened because the inspection pit was not covered nor fenced. Violation of Article 15.1 of General Regulations for Workplace Arrangement approved by the Social Security and Labour Ministry's and Healthcare Ministry's decree of 5 May 1998 requiring to install adequate protection means in dangerous zones of the workplace to protect the entry of employees.

2. Timber had to be unloaded from the **log truck**. Without waiting for assistance the driver released both special timber fastening straps. After releasing the second strap one log rolled down from the top because timber was loaded 80 cm above the stilts. 45 cm wide and 4 m long log hit and injured the driver.

The driver was insufficiently instructed; the instruction did not carry the information that timber should not be loaded above stilts.

3. The accident occurred while preparing to unload bundles of metal beams. Making the trailer ready for unloading the driver lifted the tent, released load fastening straps and opened seven sides of the trailer. Failing to open the eighth side he used a pinch bar. The trailer side opened suddenly and hit the driver on the head. The driver fell down while at the same time 3 bundles of metal beams rolled out of the trailer onto the driver's legs causing a serious injury.

Accident investigation revealed that the driver's skills in fastening, hauling and unloading such type of freight were insufficient.

The accident happened because the driver did not receive adequate training how to fasten and unload metal beams.

Violation of clauses 21.1 and 23.1 of Employee Safety and Health Instruction Preparation and Training Procedure of 5 December 2002 providing that the instruction shall indicate present or potential hazardous, noxious and other risk factors in employee's working environment, potential harm to employee's health caused by these factors, safe working methods and the use of safety equipment at work.

4. A cargo truck driver arrived at a foreign customs terminal and idled two days due to delayed unloading of the truck. Two days later the driver was found dead.

The forensics pathology revealed lethal intoxication with CO. The inspection discovered defective gas heater in the truck's cabin. The company did not have technical documentation on vehicle cabin heaters, gas equipment maintenance specialist was not appointed in the company. The driver who operated the vehicle's gas heater had not received adequate training; his knowledge was not tested under the established procedure.

The accident was caused by operating defective gas heater in the truck's cabin and failure to train drivers how to operate such appliances.

5. The accident took place when the driver was getting ready to wash the truck. Upon the supervisor's instruction to clean and wash the vehicle the driver got into the vehicle and was about to leave. Soon the driver was found outside the vehicle tumbling about on the ground with bruised head. The driver failed to answer any questions, lost consciousness and died in hospital.

The investigation revealed that the person could not hold the driver's job because for seven years he was ill with diabetes of average severity. Four years ago he had a health check-up with implication that he could hold a driver's job provided he had a health check-up 6 months later. However the driver failed to have a repeated health check-up.

The accident resulted from the employer's failure to ensure the driver's health check-up in due time. The company failed to control the health status of this driver thus violating Clause 35 of Appendix 3 of the Healthcare Minister's decree No.3107 of 30 May 2000 prohibiting persons ill with diabetes to drive vehicles of category B, C, D, and E.

6. A driver with a fifth wheel tractor and a trailer hauled reinforced concrete slabs. The cargo was loaded and fastened with straps according to the truck's scheme. While making a left turn the right wheel of the trailer hit a hole in the road. The load shifted to the right and the trailer together with the truck fell over onto the right side. The driver's neck disks were injured.

The accident resulted from the violation of clauses 14.1, 25.2, and 25.2.2 of Road Traffic Rules of 29 November 1993. These clauses provide that the driver shall not exceed the allowable speed limit, take into consideration the traffic, peculiarities of the vehicle and the cargo so that he could hold the vehicle in control. The cargo shall be placed and fastened in such a manner that it would not infringe the stability of the vehicle and hinder the driving.

7. A driver of a long-distance hauling company has worked as a heavy duty vehicle driver for 40 years. Most of the vehicles he used to drive were old with low quality not shock absorbing seats. The driver's backbone had to bear all shocks, swings and shakes. The driver suffered from excess noise and vibration, seasonal temperature variations. The employee was diagnosed with vertebral sacroiliac lumbar radiculopathy featuring constant pains resulting from 40-years of suffered vibration.