

**Confined Space Accidents and Fatalities From www.safetynews.co.uk
Courtesy of Burgess and Associates-Hot Zone USA
www.hzburgess.com**

May 2013

USA

Cleaner died in fall into meat blender

A 41-year old contractor was killed in a fall into a meat blender while cleaning equipment at Interstate Meat Distributors in Clackamas, Oregon. He apparently fell in while it was activated but could not be saved despite the prompt action of a colleague in pressing the emergency stop button. 1st May 2013

USA

Contract welder's torch ignites oil tank at Utah facility

A 28-year old employee of Boren Construction was killed when a 400-barrel oil storage tank exploded during hot metal work at the Newfield Exploration Company at Myton, 100 miles east of Salt Lake City, a Newfield employee was also injured in the accident, the cause of which is speculated as sparks from a welding torch. 9th May 2013

Germany

Platform winch fails in lift shaft

A 39-year old worker sustained serious but not life-threatening injuries in a 3-metre fall from a platform in a lift shaft when a winch failed during renovation work yesterday in premises in Karlsruhe. 8th May 2013

Austria

Worker drove to hospital with severed arm

A 37-year old Hungarian worker severed the lower section of his arm while cleaning a rotating drum at premises in the Purbach suburb of Eistenstadt on Saturday. Remarkably he managed to switch off the equipment and bring the severed section out of the machine and then drive himself 10 miles at low speed to the local hospital where astonished staff immediately stabilised him, took the severed section which was wrapped in a pullover and arranged for an air ambulance to Vienna. Re-attachment of the lower arm was completed, success would depend on the worker's circulation. 13th May 2013

Germany

Worker killed in fall through farm asbestos-cement roof

A 50-year old worker died in a 10-metre fall through the roof of a silo after moving on to a weak asbestos-cement sheet section on the roof during refurbishment work on a farm in Untermedlingen, Bavaria. 16th May 2013

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England

North-east company fined over kiln operator's injury

At Darlington Magistrates' Court brick manufacturer Weinerberger was fined £13,500 plus £4,190.70 in costs over a fall from height accident which saw a worker fracture his skull, neck vertebrae and a leg. At the mothballed premises on Eldon Lane, Bishop Auckland, a 56-year old kiln operator was standing atop a kiln trying to free a jammed door on 18th January last year when he lost his balance and fell 3 metres. HSE investigation found that the company had failed to provide any safety measures to control risks of a fall from height and failed to provide a safe system of work for releasing the jammed oven door. The company pleaded guilty to a breach of Section 2(1) of the Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974. 16th May 2013

Italy

Steel worker dies after 12 days of burns agony

A 57-year old worker died in hospital in Verona yesterday, succumbing to the agonising effects of 2nd and 3rd degree burns over 90% of his body after falling into a cooling tank 12 days ago while he and colleagues were handling metal sections at the Venete steel works. 21st May 2013

Philippines

Hot metal work explosion at asphalt plant

A worker of 4B Construction Corporation has been killed and a colleague hospitalised in San Fernando following an explosion during hot metal work on a bunker tank at an asphalt plant in Apalit on Luzon Island. Both workers were using welding equipment during the installation of piping at the top of the tank when the explosion occurred. 23rd May 2013

Germany

Mill manager crushed to death clearing grain blockage

A 54-year old manager was killed in a crush accident after being drawn into machinery in his mill in Zwonitz, Saxony, where he had been attempting to clear a blockage preventing the processing of rape seed. The accident was unwitnessed but it is believed that he had managed to clear the blockage but was immediately drawn into the machinery which then automatically de-activated. 30th May 2013

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USA

Worker installing auger crushed by corn in Ohio grain silo

A 68-year old man was killed in a crush accident in a corn silo on a farm on Lower Valley Pike in Mad River Township, Ohio. He had apparently entered the silo to install a 2nd auger while the main auger was operating and the corn in the silo became unstable and collapsed on him. 30th May 2013

Canada

Electrical accident on new jail site

An Ontario worker was hospitalised with electric burns yesterday after he sustained a shock while working in a hydro chamber on the construction site of the new Southwest Detention Centre in Windsor. 30th May 2013