

FATALGRAM

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Date of Accident: February 13, 2006

Auto Recycling

An auto recycling employee was attempting to remove a part from under a vehicle when the bumper jack used to lift the vehicle slipped trapping and crushing the employee under the vehicle.

Description of Accident: The victim was in the yard attempting to remove a rear drive shaft from a 1980 Ford Bronco II. Tires on this vehicle were flat. A Hi-Lift bumper jack was used to lift the vehicle. The ground was icy from rain that had fallen in previous days. The employee apparently had opened the driver's door and placed the bumper jack under the rocker panel to tilt and raise the vehicle. The victim crawled under the vehicle to remove the part. While attempting to remove the rear drive shaft, the jack slipped, trapping the victim under the Bronco, suffocating the employee. The jack was found kicked out and leaning against the driver's seat.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Use an appropriate lifting device for the work performed.
- Lift only on areas of the vehicle as specified by the manufacturer.
- Follow all manufacturers' jacking instructions.
- **NEVER** get beneath the vehicle when it is supported by the bumper jack.
- Do not use when either the vehicle or jack is not on a surface capable of sustaining the load being lifted.
- Ensure the load being lifted is cribbed, blocked or otherwise secured.
- An employer should have a written safety program which includes enforcement and discipline procedures to ensure that employees follow the employer's safety requirements. The employer should take steps to discover employee violations and document disciplinary action taken.