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FAMES ALERT

PLEASE POST IMMEDIATELY

November 9, 2022: At approximately 11:30 am (CDT) a 49-yearold roadway worker with 6 months of service was fatally injured when the rigging strap being used to load a switch point broke, causing loss of control of the load and the switch point to fatally injure the roadway worker. The deceased employee was using a tag line to help guide the load into the back of the truck.

Reminder: Analysis has shown that the 4th Quarter of the year is the deadliest time of year. There have been 2 fatalities since the beginning of this month alone.

Take Away

Although this recent tragedy has not yet been analyzed, the FAMES Committee reminds all roadway workers to remain vigilant. (1) Inspect all slings and load lifting devices for excessive wear or stretch. (2) Inspect all slings and load lifting devices for broken or cut fibers. (3) Confirm all load ratings are clearly marked on the device. (4) Before lifting any load, inspect the load for any condition which may compromise the lifting device (such as a sharp edge on a lifting strap). (5) Before lifting any load, conduct a thorough job briefing ensuring all workers involved in the lift understand the potential hazards associated with the task.

NEVER STAND UNDER A RAISED LOAD!

The FAMES Committee consists of safety representatives from a cross section of rail labor, railroad management, and federal regulators. FAMES is a continuous improvement process that relies on the candid sharing of available data and the views of its participants. To enable the process, FAMES explicitly refrains from making any findings regarding whether any past or present practice or protocol satisfies any legal duty or standard of care.

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