



# TWO MECHANICS ELECTROCUTED!

## CRANE BOOM CONTACTS HIGH-VOLTAGE LINE

In a recent incident, two mechanics, 18-year-old David K.\*, and 40-year-old Shawn P.\*, died when the truck-mounted crane they were using touched an overhead power line. They had been using the crane to repair a heavy equipment scraper. The boom of the crane touched the high-voltage line. The electrical current passed down the boom to David and Shawn.

### WHAT WENT WRONG?

The work was done directly under an unprotected, energized, high-voltage line.

David and Shawn had not been trained how to safely use a crane.

### WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

Don't work near energized high-voltage lines unless necessary. If work has to be done near power lines, make sure that there is a plan to do the work safely, that the plan is followed, and that the workers have the right equipment to keep themselves protected.

Make sure workers using cranes are fully trained and follow safe work practices.

The California Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) program has been investigating work-related deaths since 1992. The goal of the FACE program is to prevent these deaths by informing workers and managers of worksite hazards and how to avoid them.

For complete fatality reports of this case (04CA004), or other cases, and additional information on the California FACE program, please contact:

California Department of Public Health  
Occupational Health Branch (OHB), FACE Program  
850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, 3rd Floor, Richmond, CA 94804  
(510) 620-5757

[www.cdph.ca.gov/face](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/face)  
CA Relay Service: 711 or (800) 735-2929 (hearing/speech impaired)

To obtain a copy of this document in an alternate format, please contact OHB at (510) 620-5757. Allow at least 10 days to coordinate alternate format services.

\* Not the victim's real name

# PLEASE POST

California Department of Public Health  
Occupational Health Branch, FACE Program  
850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, 3rd Floor  
Richmond, CA 94804

**FACE stands for "Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation."** The purpose of the FACE program is to identify hazards that may cause work-related deaths so that employers and employees can help prevent them.

**FACE** is a program run by the Occupational Health Program within the California Department of Public Health, and funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor  
State of California  
Kimberly Belshe, Secretary  
Health and Human Services Agency  
Mark B. Horton, Director  
Department of Public Health  
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