



September 17, 2012

Fourth Quarter Safety Alert

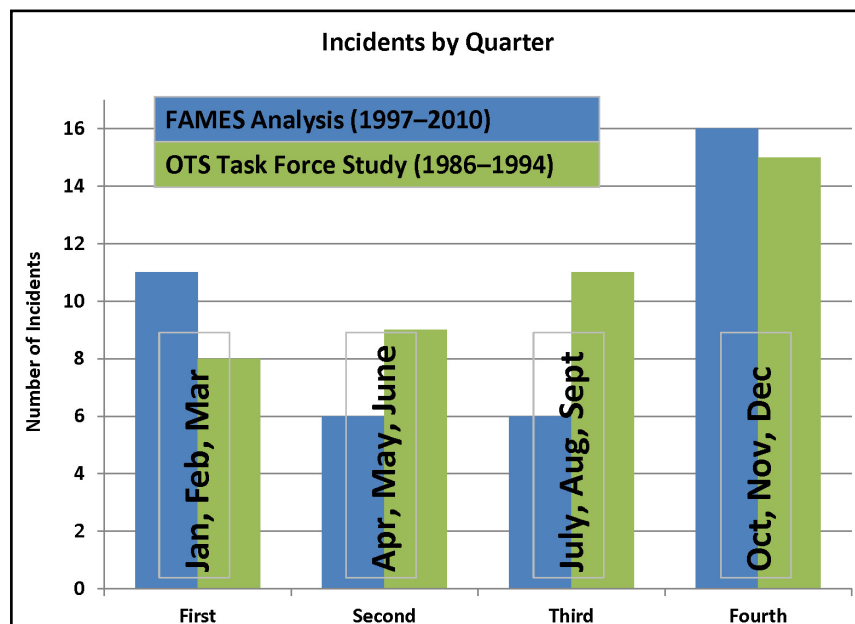
Twenty-one years of data shows 4th Quarter spike in fatal roadway worker incidents

A comparison of roadway worker fatality data over a span of 21 years (1986–1994 and 1997–2010) indicates that the highest number of roadway worker incidents occur in the 4th Quarter.

Roadway worker fatality data reviewed by FAMES for the 8-year period between 1986–1994 (pre-RWP rule) indicates 43 fatal roadway worker incidents. Of these 43 fatal incidents, **34.8 percent (15 of 43) occurred in the 4th Quarter (October–Dec).**

FAMES also reviewed 39 fatal roadway worker incidents which occurred between 1997–2010 (post-RWP rule). Of these 39 incidents, **41 percent (16 of 39) occurred in the 4th Quarter.**

Although the FAMES Committee has not been able to determine the reasons for the historical 4th Quarter spike in roadway worker fatalities, the evidence is undeniable and alarming.



In recognition of these historical trends, FAMES takes this opportunity to remind all roadway workers to be hyper-vigilant with regard to the application of on-track safety protection, especially during the 4th Quarter. If you see someone fouling a track without on-track safety protection, say something to them. If you have concerns regarding the application of on-track safety at the job site, invoke your legally protected right to make a good faith challenge and remain clear of the tracks until the challenge has been resolved.

Working together, and watching out for one another, we can save lives!

Dedication: The FAMES Committee dedicates its efforts to all roadway workers who have lost their lives in the performance of duty and to the families, loved ones, and coworkers they have left behind.

Mission Statement: The Mission of the Fatality Analysis of Maintenance-of-way Employees and Signalmen (FAMES) Committee is to analyze all fatalities and selected related incidents in order to make recommendations to reduce the risk of future occurrences and eliminate fatalities to roadway workers.