



SAFETY & HEALTH

EX-PRESIDENT GETS PROBATION FOR HOMICIDES

Must teach safety training classes

The former president of a sewer company in Arizona who was convicted of causing the deaths of two workers five years ago has been sentenced to seven years probation and 840 hours of community service, reports the Yuma Sun newspaper.

Brent H. Weidman, former president of the Far West Water and Sewer Co., was sentenced to four years probation for one count of negligent homicide, and another four years for one count of aggravated assault. The sentences will be served concurrently, the Sun reports.

Weidman also was sentenced to three years probation for a second count of negligent homicide and three years probation for another count of aggravated assault. Those terms will also be served concurrently, and will start after his four-year probation ends.

Weidman must also serve 840 hours of community service in which he will teach safety training classes for the Arizona Occupational Safety and Health Administration in Yuma and pay a \$50,000 fine.

STUDY LINKS JOB STRESS - INJURY

Link strongest at smaller companies

Psychosocial job stress, such as heavy workloads, puts workers at significantly increased risk of injury, according to a new Japanese study.

The focus of the study was to pinpoint the specific psychosocial job stressors that lead to injury. One thousand forty-nine men and 721 women from 244 small- and medium-sized companies in one Japanese city participated; most worked in factory settings.

Researchers found that a high variance in workload and



high job-future ambiguity in men, and low job control and high intra-group conflict in women were significantly associated with occupational injury.

In manufacturing/production workers, high quantitative workload, high variance in workload, and high depressive symptoms were significantly associated with injury in men, while low social support from colleagues or family was related to injury in women.

Source: *Safety Currents Express*

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