

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
Safety & Occupational Health Office**

Lessons Learned

ACCIDENT: Stepped into Hole

Date: 29 Jan 2002

WHAT HAPPENED: Worker was moving a 4'X4' piece of plywood from an existing pier hole to a new one being drilled. As he picked up the plywood, he stepped backwards into an 18 inches deep pier hole twisting his ankle and tearing ligaments in his leg.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS: Not paying attention to surrounding work area

RESULTS: Twisted ankle and pulled/tore ligament

LESSONS LEARNED:

Reference- EM 385-1-1, USACE SAFETY & HEALTH Requirements Manual

- **Not paying attention to your surroundings can lead to injury.**

01.A.03 Each individual employee is responsible for complying with applicable safety requirements, wearing prescribed safety equipment, and preventing avoidable accidents.