

*Have you ever thought about...*

## The True Cost of an Accident?

### **MONETARY LOSSES**

- Loss of skilled, experienced workers
- Loss of profit from such workers
- Loss of production
- Training expense for new personnel to take over for the injured party
- Re-training expense for the injured worker to handle another job
- Payment of compensation
- Legal costs
- Awards paid out for lawsuits
- Settlement awards
- Increased workman's compensation premiums
- Increased general liability insurance premiums
- Federal ADA or OSHA fines for non-compliance
- State and local fines for non-compliance

### **LOSS OF TIME**

- Time investigating the cause of the accident
- Time processing the accident reports
- Time preparing personnel reports
- Time attending depositions, hearings, and trials
- Time for additional training and supervision of new employees

*Whether "Competent Person" or "Confined Spaces"...*

## NUCA-Approved Training Will Make a Difference

Training on how and when to use trench-safety and confined-space equipment and knowledge is just as vital to the safety and well-being of your construction or utility workers as the best equipment they use. A case can be made that effective training may be even more important. It can often mean the difference between life and death on the job site. It can often mean the difference between meeting various regulations and simply skirting them and risking heavy fines.

But training can also help your operation in another very important, but oftentimes overlooked, way: It can put money in your organization's pocket.

Sloping—the most common alternative to shielding and shoring—can be an expensive proposition, indeed. The "white paper" insert in the middle of the issue of Excavation Safety News outlines the details and presents a true comparison of the alternatives. Clearly, when your field teams know how to evaluate the circumstances they are faced with, shielding or shoring will most often make the most sense.

### **EXCELLENT TRAINING IS AVAILABLE FREQUENTLY THROUGHOUT THE MID-SOUTH**

TrenchSafety and Supply is an approved provider of the National Utility Contractors Association's (NUCA) "Competent Person" and "Confined Spaces" training seminars. Taught by David Dow, TrenchSafety's president, the seminars benefit construction workers, supervisory personnel, and construction-company owners and managers. The two courses are designed to increase awareness of federal, state, and local regulations governing excavation and "confined space" worker safety.

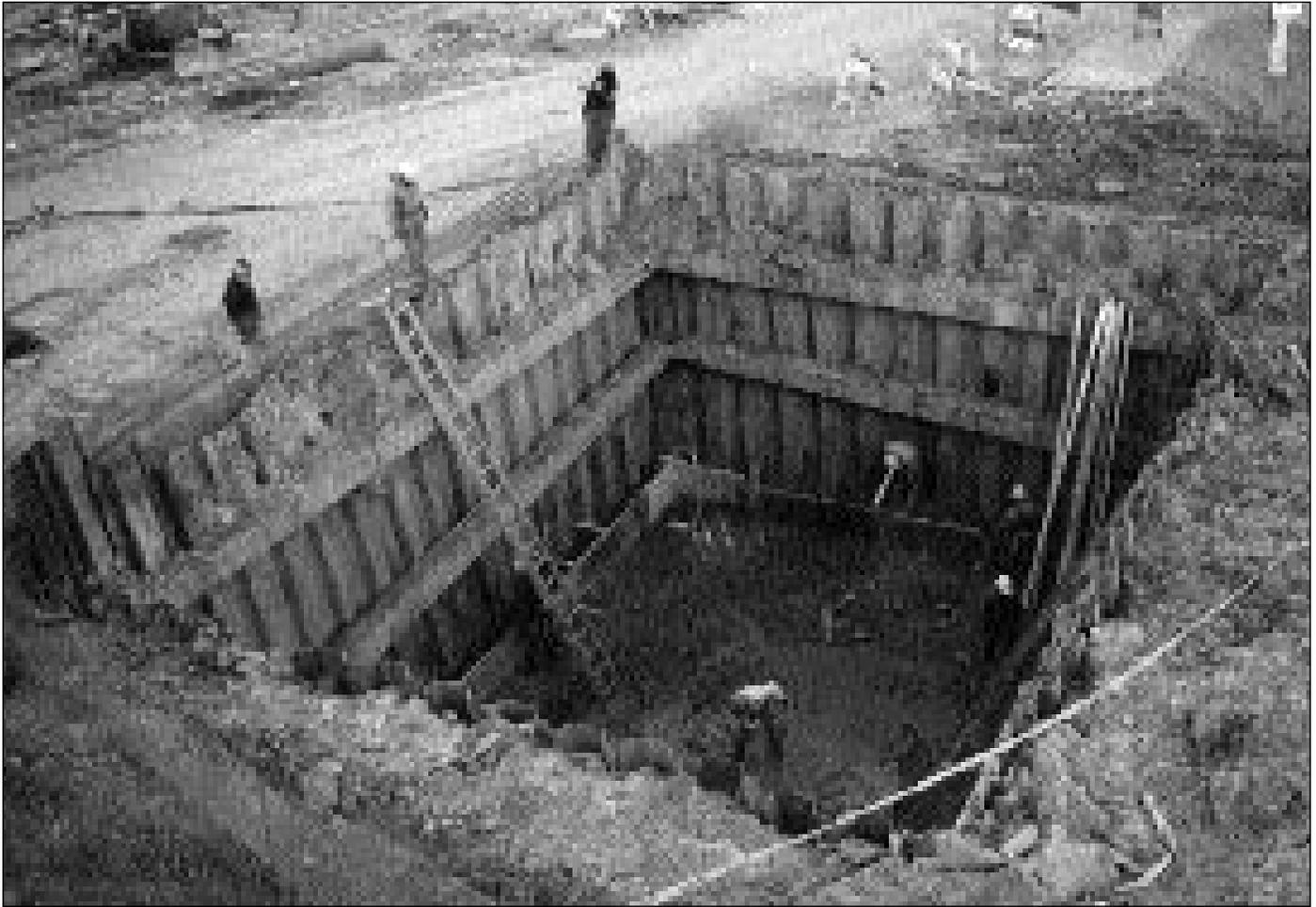
"Federal OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) regulations require that a 'competent person' be on-site whenever workers are exposed in a

### ***Did You Know...***

*OSHA has targeted trenches as one of the four main hazards in construction. Inspectors have been instructed to check EVERY trench they see.*

*See "NUCA-Approved Training" on page 4...*

## Problem-solving Uses of TrenchSafety Shields



*TrenchSafety provided shoring for a 32' x 40' x 17' deep excavation on a tank-installation project in Memphis. This particular shoring system uses lightweight sheet piling in concert with horizontal walers that expand hydraulically to support the walls of the excavation. The system is manufactured by Mabey Bridge and Shore, a British company.*

*This was the first installation of this type in the U.S. west of the Appalachian Mountains.*

*Coming Soon...*

### **TrenchSafety in Cyberspace**

Early this summer look for TrenchSafety and Supply on the World Wide Web at **[www.trenchsafety.com](http://www.trenchsafety.com)**

Helpful information on ways you can:

- Improve job site safety
- Reduce costs
- Increase productivity
- Meet regulatory requirements
- Sign up for a NUCA "Competent Person" and "Confined Space" class
- Get product information
- Learn about our rental rates
- See specific job photos and ideas
- Go to "hot links" to related web sites

***Come visit us!***

### **Excavation Safety News**

Published quarterly by

**TrenchSafety and Supply, Inc.**

3000 Ferrell Park Cove • Memphis, TN 38116

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*This newsletter provides a brief overview of safety regulations and systems. It is not intended to provide specific legal or engineering advice. Please refer to OSHA CFR 29, Part 1926, Subpart P, "Excavation and Trenches," to other governmental regulations, and to manufacturers' instructions for specific information.*

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# Hard Hats: So Much More Than a Fashion Statement

Sometimes it may be tempting to wear your hard hat with the bill facing to the rear. But that may not be such a good idea.

Robert Johnson, with TrenchSafety, demonstrates the “wrong” and “right” ways to wear a hard hat. OSHA says that protective helmets must meet the specifications set by ANSI Z89.1. Because ANSI only tests and certifies hard hats to be worn with the bill



“Wrong”

forward, hard hats with the bill to the rear will not meet OSHA’s requirements, unless the manufacturer certifies that they meet the ANSI requirement.



“Right”



## Overhead Trench Boxes: Handle With Care

It’s important to use properly rated chain, wire-rope or nylon slings when handling trench shields. Slings should be properly rated to handle the load, and they should be inspected before use to make certain they are in good condition.

In addition, workers should never stand near or under an overhead load. In this photo, a contractor at the casinos in Robinsonville, Miss., is preparing

to set a 4’ high by 16’ long “stack shield” on top of another shield already in place. He’s using a four-legged wire-rope sling to handle the shield.

Note: Typically, chains are the most abused piece of equipment on job sites. When they break, the results can be deadly.

Also, chains used for tying-down loads on trucks and trailers are typically classified as “Grade 70” or “transport grade” chain and they are not properly rated for lifting applications.

## How NOT to Use a Trench Box

*Trench shield boxes are great safety devices, but they must be properly maintained and used in accordance with OSHA regulations and the manufacturer’s tabulated data. This particular box failed as a result of years of abuse. Fortunately, no one was in the excavation when the sidewall failure occurred.*



**TrenchSafety and Supply, Inc.**

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Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Memphis, TN  
Permit No. 465

**Address Correction Requested**

**“NUCA-Approved Training” from page 1**

trench that might collapse,” Dow notes. “We’re trying to reach as many people in a variety of industries as quickly and thoroughly as we can to reduce the number of needless accidents related to trench cave-ins and workers being trapped.”

Each of the courses—one for training “competent persons” and the other aimed at

“confined space” safety—can be completed in a day, and are offered regularly throughout the Tennessee-Mississippi-Arkansas area. (See schedule of upcoming classes at right.)

**Did You Know...**

*If you have a water or wastewater license, most states will award you continuing education credits for attending TrenchSafety’s “Competent Person” and “Confined Space” training sessions.*

The courses cost \$85 each, per person, and all

“students” receive an instructional workbook that later serves as a valuable on-the-job reference manual. Each participant also receives a wallet card and certificate from NUCA signifying completion of the course.

**CUSTOMIZED CLASSES AT YOUR LOCATION**

We can come to your facility and present the classes specifically for your employees. Our doing so saves your organization and your employees time and money. Call TrenchSafety for details.

**Schedule of NUCA-Approved Training Classes**

**“Competent Person” Training**

- Thursday, May 22— Memphis
- Thursday, June 5— Jackson, Miss.
- Thursday, June 26— Corinth, Miss.
- Thursday, July 17— Little Rock
- Thursday, July 31— Union City, Tenn.
- Thursday, August 21— Memphis
- Thursday, September 18— Fort Smith, Ark.
- Thursday, September 25— Columbus, Miss.
- Thursday, October 23— Memphis
- Tuesday, November 25— Memphis
- Thursday, January 8, 1998— Memphis
- Thursday, January 15— Jackson, Tenn.

**“Confined Space” Training**

- Thursday, May 15 — Memphis
- Thursday, August 14 — Memphis
- Thursday, November 13 — Memphis

Call Today to register and reserve classes for your staff.



**Cost is \$85 per person.**

**VISA & MasterCard accepted.**



**TRENCHSAFETY AND SUPPLY, INC.**  
**(901) 346-5800 or (800) 865-5801**