

Stevedore dies in accident while offloading containers at John Fernandes wharf

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The Occupational Health Safety and Health Department of the Ministry of Labour has launched an investigation into yet another workplace death.

The latest incident took place on Thursday at the John Fernandes Limited wharf facilities on Water Street in Georgetown. 63-year-old Stevedore, Dallas Sharples, lost his life in the incident. Sharples was employed at the John Fernandes company.

According to initial reports, Mr. Sharples was assisting in the offloading of containers from a vessel along with his co-workers when he was hit by a section of the crane that was being used to move the containers.

He was pitched into the bottom vessel and emergency services were contacted immediately. The man was rushed to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The Labour Ministry said Senior OSH Officer Garrway Bourne and OSH Officer, Ray Hosannah, visited the site to begin the investigation to determine the circumstances surrounding the accident and to develop recommendations to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

Minister Joe Hamilton in a statement reminded employers and workers of the importance and need for good safety and health practices in the workplace.

Investigations into the deadly incident are still ongoing.

Guyana recorded a 60% increase in workplace deaths last year.