



2010 FATALITY REPORT

January 1 – December 31

This report is a summary of 45 fatalities in USW workplaces between January 1 and December 31, 2010 as reported to the USW Health, Safety and Environment Department. Five additional fatalities of interest at other workplaces are also included.

The report does not necessarily include all fatalities at USW workplaces, only those reported to the department. Some employers are required to report by the union contract; in other cases, the information was sent voluntarily by the employer, the USW staff representative, or the local union. The reporting is probably better for members than for supervisors, contractors and other non-members.

USW fatality reports rarely contain information on deaths from occupational disease. These deaths often occur after retirement; many are not recognized as being caused by a condition at work. However, research has shown that for every worker who dies in an industrial accident, eight to ten die from long-term occupational disease.

Accident reports are very important. Other local unions can use them to prevent similar accidents. If a USW member, supervisor, contractor, member of another union, or non-union worker is killed at your facility, or dies of an occupational disease, please notify us as soon as possible. In the United States, that should be done through the USW's 24-hr Emergency Response Hotline, at **1-866-526-3480**. In Canada, please notify both your district director and the Canadian National Office.

ANALYSIS

Three of the Forty-five fatalities in USW workplaces are not included in the analysis that follows. All were from heart attacks not believed to have been caused by events at work immediately preceding the death.

Thirty-one of the remaining forty-two victims were members of the USW. Four were supervisors (of whom at least one was a former member). Five were contractors; one was a truck driver making a delivery. Four were Canadian; four were women. One was in the bargaining unit but not a member.

The distribution by industry was: oil – 11 (including 7 in a single accident); paper, including converting plants – 6; mining, including iron ore – 4; steel – 5; chemical – 2; non-ferrous 2, rubber, cement, valves & fittings; foundry, metal scrap recycling, tile manufacturing, forest products, glass, construction, trucking, forging and water transport – 1 each.

The distribution by district was: District 1 – 1 member; District 2 – 1 member, 1 other; District 3 – 3 members; District 4 – 1 other; District 5 – none; District 6 – 1 member; District 7 – 3 members; District 8 – 5 members, 1 other; District 9 – 3 members, 1 other; District 10 – 4 members; District 11 – 1 other; District 12 – 9 members, 3 others (7 in a single accident); District 13 – 1 members, 3 other.

Some of these accidents are still under investigation, so this report should be considered preliminary.

1. January 11, **Danny Butler**, 59, an employee of **BF Goodrich** in **Tuscaloosa, Alabama**, was seriously injured while climbing on to a scissor lift deck, when he fell to the concrete floor and hit his head. He died from his injuries 14 days later. He was a member of **Local Union 351** in **District 9**.
2. January 11, **Ron Hazelton**, a contractor working at **NCRA** in **Mcpherson, Kansas**, was fatally injured when he fell from a scaffold. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 558** in **District 11**.
3. January 21, **Jerry Evans**, 39, an employee of **International Paper** in **Lynchburg, Virginia**, was fatally injured when he was pinned between two pin trucks. He was member of **Local Union 8-1895** in **District 8**.
4. January 22, **Earl Boring**, a supervisor at **Houston Refining** in **Houston, Texas**, died from injuries suffered from a fall. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 13-227** in **District 13**.
5. January 26, **Butch Steward**, a supervisor at **Lehigh Southwest** in **Tehachapi, California**, was fatally injured when he was run over by a truck. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 12-52** in **District 12**.
6. February 6, **Ricky L. Whitworth**, a truck driver for an outside carrier, was making a delivery to **Green Bay Packaging, Inc.**, located in **Wausau, Wisconsin**, when he was accidentally struck by a semi. Workers in the plant are represented by **Local Union 631** in **District 2**.
7. February 14, **Vance Dickson**, 60, an employee of **Severstal Steel Sparrows Point** in **Baltimore, Maryland**, was fatally injured when he fell from a coil carier. He died from his injuries a day later. He was a member of **Local Union 9477** in **District 8**.
8. February 16, **Dominic Shorter**, 46, an employee of **Seaspan** in **Delta, British Columbia**, was fatally injured when the ramp he was working on collapsed, throwing him into the Fraser River. He was a member of **Local Union 1976A** in **District 3**.
9. February 16, **Leroy Baker**, 61, an employee of **Galland Henning Nopak** in **West Milwaukee, Wisconsin**, was fatally injured when a steel plate he was moving from outside storage with an overhead crane fell on him. He was a member of **Local Union 1527-04** in **District 2**.
10. February 20, **Frederic Wizba**, 54, a supervisor at **Mountain State Carbon** in **Follansbee, West Virginia**, was fatally injured when he was struck by a large chunk of ice while working outside under a coal conveyer belt. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 1190** in **District 8**.

11. March 19, **Eldon Perry**, 56, an employee of **Iron Ore Company** in **Canada**, was fatally injured when he fell 24 feet from a work platform. He was a member of **Local Union 5795** in **District 6**.
12. March 31, **Don Mancuso**, 55, an employee of **Goodyear (Dunlop)** located in **Buffalo, New York**, died of a heart attack 20 minutes into his shift. His death is not considered occupational. He was a member of **Local Union 135** in **District 4**.
- 13-19. April 2, **Matthew C. Bowen**, 31, **Darrin J. Hoines**, 43, and **Daniel J. Aldridge**, 50, were killed in an explosion and fire at the **Tesoro Refinery** in **Anacortes, Washington**. **Kathryn “K.D.” Powell**, 29, and **Donna Van Dreumel**, 36, died of their burns later that day at the hospital. **Lew Janz**, 41, died 4/13 of his burns and **Matt Gumbel**, 34, died 4/24. All except Lew Janz were members of **Local Union 12-591** in **District 12**; Janz was a former member.
20. April 2, **John Paget**, 57, an employee of **Wheat City Metals** located in **Regina, Saskatchewan**, was fatally injured when a piece of the sledge hammer broke off and penetrated him just below his sternum. He was a member of **Local Union 5917** in **District 3**.
21. April 12, **Bridgette Geist**, 37, an employee of **Victaulic Company** located in **Alburdis, Pennsylvania**, was seriously injured in a furnace explosion which burned 80% of her body. She died from her injuries 3 days later 4/15/10. She was a member of **Local Union 2599** in **District 10**.
22. May 4, **Donald Cunningham**, 54, an employee of **US Steel** located in **Clairton, Pennsylvania**, was working on front-end loader when he had a heart attack. He was a member of **Local Union 1557** in **District 10**.
23. May 11, **Ed Artic**, 59, an employee of **Agrium Incorporated** located in **Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**, was fatally injured after being struck in the head by a metal object. He was a member of **Local Union 7552** in **District 3**.
24. May 18, **Mark Ferguson**, 42, a contractor employed by **BIS Frucon Industrial Services**, was fatally injured while working at **Buckeye Tech** located in **Perry, Florida**, when he was ran over by a forklift. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 1192** in **District 9**.
25. May 23, **Steve Mangona**, 61, an employee of **Unilever** located in **Hammond, Indiana**, was fatally injured when he was struck when removing an agitator from a railcar. He was a member of **Local Union 7-336** in **District 7**.
26. June 12, **Andrew Robinson**, 31, an employee of **Newman Paper** located in **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**, was fatally injured when he was crushed. He was a member of **Local Union 10-286** in **District 10**.
27. June 15, **Lakeya Stallings**, 30, an employee of **Temple Inland, Inc.** located in **Rome, Georgia**, was fatally injured at the planer mill when she was caught in-between the two inward

running stick rollers of a lumber unloading machine. She was a member of **Local Union 9-00518 in District 9.**

28. June 18, **Timothy A. Bush**, 29, a contractor working for **United Mine Services** at the **U.S. Silver Corporation Galena Mine** in **Wallace, Idaho**, was fatally injured while scaling loose material underground. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 5114 in District 12.**

29. June 20, **Thomas E. Benavidez**, 52, a heavy duty truck mechanic at the **Grupo Mexico Asarco Ray Mine** in **Gila County, Arizona**, was killed when his ½ ton maintenance truck was run over by a 240 ton haul truck. He was a member of **Local Union 915 in District 12.** A second worker was critically injured.

30. June 27, **Jonathan Wager**, 32, an employee of **Clearwater Paper** in **Lewiston, Idaho**, was killed driving home from work after working several 12-hour shifts. Fatigue is a likely contributing factor, so his death is considered occupational. He was a member of **Local Union 608 in District 12.**

31. June 30, **John Bergen III**, 35, an employee of **Clearwater Paper** in **Lewiston, Idaho**, was killed when he fell through #2 paper machine's tail chute floor opening onto a moving conveyor and was then engulfed inside the hydropulper tank. He was a member of **Local Union 608 in District 12.**

32-33. July 22, **James Taylor**, 53 and **Corey Keller**, 41, employees of **Horsehead Corporation** in **Monaca, Pennsylvania** were killed in a zinc refinery column explosion. They were members of **Local Union 8183 in District 10.**

34. July 29, **Jackie Williams**, 40, an employee of **Monarch Tile** in **Florence, Alabama**, suffered a fatal heart attack while at work. Temperatures were hot this day and the work was strenuous, so her death is considered occupational. She was a member of **Local Union 200 in District 9.**

35. August 8, **Denton Haske**, 61, an employee of **Interlake Steamship** in **Richfield, Ohio**, was fatally injured while doing repairs on an ore boat when he became caught in a conveyor belt and was crushed between it and a roller. He was a member of **Local Union 5000 in District 1.**

36. August 10, **Phillip Porter**, 51, an employee of **Gerdau Steel** located in **Calvert City, Kentucky** suffered a fatal heart attack while at work. His death is still under investigation, but tentatively it is not considered occupational. He was a member of **Local Union 9447 in District 8.**

37. August 11, **Glenn Kowis**, an employee of **Shell** in **Deer Park, Texas**, apparently suffered a fatal heat stroke while at work. His death is still under investigation, but since it was a hot area on a very hot day, it is tentatively considered occupational. He was a member of **Local Union 13-1 in District 13.**

38. September 29, **Kelly Caudal**, 56, an employee of **Pilkington** located in **Shelbyville, Indiana** was fatally injured when he was crushed by a piece of equipment. He was a member of **Local Union 7703** in **District 7**.
39. October 6, a Contractor employed by **Team Incorporated** was fatally injured while working at **Exxon** located in **Chalmette, Louisiana**. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 1192** in **District 13**.
40. October 18, **Apolonio Arras**, 57, an employee of **ArcelorMittal** formerly **Border Steel** located in **Vinton, Texas** was fatally injured when a draw furnace exploded. He was in the bargaining unit but not a member of **Local Union 9424** in **District 13**.
41. October 19, **John Mays**, 49, an employee of **Bush Burchett Corporation** located in **Ashland, Kentucky** was fatally injured when he fell to his death from a bridge. He was a member of **Local Union 14614** in **District 8**.
42. October 20, **Jason Hamn**, 33, an employee of **ArcelorMittal** located in **Burns Harbor, Indiana** was fatally injured when he was crushed by a piece of equipment. He was a member of **Local Union 1010** in **District 7**.
43. November 9, **Rich Folaron**, 57, an employee of **Mollenberg-Betz** was fatally injured while working at **DuPont Company** located in **Tonawanda, New York**, when a process vessel exploded during a maintenance procedure. Bargaining unit employees are represented by **Local Union 6992** in **District 4**.
44. December 3, **Ashley Weikle**, 44, an employee of **King Carriers Incorporated** located in **Covington, Virginia**, was fatally injured when his bobtail tractor trailer collided with a tractor trailer that ran off the side of the road, went into the median and veered into his lane of traffic from the opposite direction. He was a member of **Local Union 8-496** in **District 8**.
45. December 5, **Marvin Krueger**, 56, an employee of **Cypress Technologies** located in **Louisville, Kentucky** was fatally injured while at work, details are unknown at this time. He was a member of **Local Union 1693** in **District 8**.

FATALITIES OF INTEREST IN NON-USW REPRESENTED WORKPLACES

These are included because the company employs a large number of USW members at other locations, or because we have attempted to organize the location in the past. However the list is not inclusive; we have not attempted to collect all such fatalities.

46. January 7, a supervisor employed by **Evrax Steel** located in **Portland, Oregon**, was crushed when a crane lift caught him against a stack of steel plates. This is a non-union facility formerly known as Oregon Steel. Evrax Steel is also the owner of the USW – represented Rocky Mountain Steel in Pueblo, Colorado.

47. January 23, **Carl “Dan” Fish**, an employee of **E. I. Dupont** located in **Belle, West Virginia**, he was fatally injured when he was sprayed with phosgene at the non-union plant. The USW represents 1600 Dupont workers in other facilities.

48. March 16, **Andrew Monheim**, 54, an locomotive engineer for the **USS/Union Railroad**, was fatally injured when two trains collided near the **US Steel Edgar Thompson plant in Braddock, PA**. He was crushed under a pile of iron pellets. He was a member of the **Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen**.

49. March 17, a truck driver of an outside carrier was fatally injured at **Steel Technologies Inc.**, located in **Murfreesboro, Tennessee**, when he was struck by a steel coil being loaded onto his truck. This is an unorganized steel mill.

50. May 12, **Peter Q. Neville**, 40, an employee of **Norampac Industries’** located in **Niagara Falls, New York**, was fatally injured when he was crushed to death after getting trapped between a metal wall and a 5,000-pound roll of paper. This is an unorganized steel mill.

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