

## Safety Flash

### Incident with Recordable Injury

Date of Incident: 8/13/2019

#### The Incident

While trying to access a trench, an associate lost their footing and fell into the trench. The injuries resulted in an OSHA recordable incident.

#### The Causes

- The trench ladder was positioned on the opposite bank of the trench from the associate, which required the associate to step over the trench to step onto the ladder.
- Working conditions changed when rain made the area slippery.
- A "Take 2" or review of the STAC card was not performed after conditions changed.

#### Prevent It

- "Take 2" for safety to evaluate your changing work conditions.
- Have ladders on either side of the trench for easier and safer access.
- Evaluate methods for creating better walking surfaces in or around trenches.

#### Action Plan

- GEM Safety will develop a "How to Fall" poster, similar to the hand and eye protection posters, that can be posted on jobsites, in break areas etc.
- This Safety Flash will be shared onsite with all work crews during the morning pre-tasks.

#### Keep Improving

Your health and safety are the most important part of every project. We need *your* help to eliminate unsafe behaviors and conditions. If you see a safer and better way to do a task, see your supervisor, or contact GEM Safety: Bill Cornett – 419-720-2728. To get personal protection equipment from the warehouse, call 419-720-2688.