FATAL ALERT

August 5, 2007

A security guard came to work intoxicated and preceded to attempt to perform her assigned duties while operating a motor vehicle. The security guard had performed a security check of an outlying facility and had driven the vehicle from the area and was in the process of locking the first of two gates. When the employee exited the vehicle, the employee failed to place the shifter in the park position. The employee was attempting to lock the first gate when the vehicle started rolling backwards. The pickup truck struck and run over the security guard. The left front tire (passengers' side) of the vehicle came to rest against the guard’s chest cavity, stopping the reverse motion of the vehicle. The guard was in this position for about six hours with the vehicle running before being found by the concerned supervisor.

Significant Factors:

- Vehicle was left running.
- Employee did not ensure vehicle was in park before exiting vehicle.
- Employee was had a blood alcohol level that was above the legal limit for operating a motor vehicle.

Recommendations:

- Employees working in semi-remote location should either work in pairs or establish a communication system to enhance employee safety.
- Employer should re-evaluate patrol procedures and establish check point call-ins.
- Ensure vehicles are properly maintained and any routine maintenance is preformed by certified mechanics.
- Employees should be briefed that alcohol consumption before work is not authorized or acceptable.
- Employer should establish random alcohol/drug testing and perform unannounced testing procedures.