Racking Inspection Fatality File



Worker Dies After Rack Collapse in Warehouse

An employee was working as a spotter in a warehouse aisle when two adjacent storage racks collapsed. The collapse deposited heavy tile and mortar materials onto the worker, burying him under the debris. He remained trapped for about 30 minutes before rescue; he was later hospitalized but died approximately 16 days later from multiple blunt force trauma.

The incident report noted that a bent portion of one rack (about 1 in × 3 in) had been reported about 30 minutes before the collapse, but no action was taken to secure or remove the damaged rack.

This tragedy emphasizes how failures in racking inspection and immediate corrective action can lead to deadly outcomes.

Source: Osha.gov