

CASE STUDY: FISH PROCESSING FIRM FINED AFTER MAN KILLED BY FALLING BOXES



A Plymouth company has been fined £500,000 after an employee suffered fatal injuries when a stack of boxes of frozen fish fell on him.

The 22 year old employee was helping to clear up a fallen stack of frozen fish boxes in one of the cold store areas when there was another fall of stock which struck him. He received multiple and severe injuries which proved fatal.

The business pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974. At Plymouth Crown Court, it was fined £500,000 and ordered to pay costs of £24,800.

HSE inspector Emma O'Hara said after the hearing: "Safe stacking of stock is a cross-industry necessity and can often be overlooked when considering safe systems of work. Duty holders need to ensure that they are stacking safely and that they have a plan for dealing with any unforeseen circumstances such as a fall of stock."