

# Workplace Health and Safety Fatality Report



## **Bus Service Person Trips and Falls**

Type of Incident:        Fatality

Date of Incident:        October 9, 2008

**Government  
of Alberta** ■  
Employment  
and Immigration

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	TITLE	PAGE NUMBER
1.0	DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT	3
2.0	NAME & ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES	3
2.1	Owner	3
2.2	Prime Contractor	3
2.3	Employer	3
2.4	Contractor	3
2.5	Supplier	3
2.6	Worker	3
3.0	DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES	4
4.0	LOCATION OF INCIDENT	4
5.0	EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL AND OBSERVATIONS	4
5.1	Equipment and Material	4
5.2	Observations	4
6.0	NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT	4
7.0	ANALYSIS	5
7.1	Direct Cause	5
7.2	Contributing Factors	5
8.0	FOLLOW-UP/ ACTION TAKEN	6
8.1	Occupational Health and Safety	6
8.2	Industry	6
8.3	Additional Measures	6
9.0	SIGNATURES	6
10.0	ATTACHMENTS	7

**SECTION 1.0      DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT**

1.1      The incident occurred on October 9, 2008 at approximately 8:30 p.m.

**SECTION 2.0      NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES**

**2.1      Owner(s)**

2.1.1    City of Edmonton  
          Century Place, 9803-102A Avenue, Edmonton Alberta T5J 3A3

**2.2      Prime Contractor**

2.2.1    Not Applicable

**2.3      Employer(s)**

2.3.1    City of Edmonton  
          Century Place, 9803-102A Avenue, Edmonton Alberta T5J 3A3

**2.4      Contractor(s)**

2.4.1    Not Applicable

**2.5      Supplier(s)**

2.5.1    Not Applicable

**2.6      Worker(s)**

2.6.1    The Service Person  
          (Names and personal details were removed before distribution of this report)

### **SECTION 3.0 DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES**

- 3.1.1 The City of Edmonton is Alberta's Capital City with a population of more than one million. The City of Edmonton operates the Light Rail Transit (LRT) and buses throughout the City.

### **SECTION 4.0 LOCATION OF INCIDENT**

- 4.1 The Ferrier Garage, 8620-58 Avenue, Edmonton, is one of 4 bus maintenance and repair locations operated by Edmonton Transit Fleet Maintenance Section. Services provided at the Ferrier Garage include bus maintenance and repairs, servicing, fuelling and cleaning. The incident occurred on the north side of the inside bus parking area of the garage. 62.5 full-time equivalent staff are based at Ferrier Garage and 290 buses operate from this location. (Attachment A – Map).(Attachment C – Photographs)

### **SECTION 5.0 EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL AND OBSERVATIONS**

#### **5.1 Equipment and Material**

- 5.1.1 The Service Person was parking an Edmonton Transit bus in the inside bus parking area at the Ferrier Garage at the time of the incident. (Attachment B – Diagram) (Attachment C – Photographs #1, #2).

#### **5.2 Observations**

- 5.2.1 At the time of the incident the floor drains in the bus parking area at the Ferrier Garage were being upgraded. Sections of the floor drains were being re-laid, and covered with steel plates after pouring concrete, to allow the concrete to set.
- 5.2.2 The original incident occurred on October 9, 2008 and was not a reportable incident. Workplace Health and Safety Compliance commenced their investigation on October 20, 2008, when they were notified of the worker's death.

### **SECTION 6.0 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE INCIDENT**

- 6.1 On October 9, 2008 the Service Person was working a 4:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. shift at the Ferrier Garage. At the time of the incident the Service Person was in the Recycle stage of the shift, where Service Persons drive buses through the fuel bays, fuel the buses, clean out the buses then re-park.
- 6.2 At approximately 8:30 p.m. the Service Person was parking a bus after refueling the bus. An Auto Bodyman Mechanic was also riding in the bus.

- 6.3 After the bus had stopped the Auto Bodyman Mechanic exited the bus through the front passenger side door. The Service Person exited the bus immediately behind the Auto Bodyman Mechanic.
- 6.4 As the Service Person stepped down from the bus she stepped onto the edge of a steel plate that had been placed over a section of the floor drain that had recently been repaired. The Service Person rolled her ankle and fell to the floor. The Service Person was immediately helped up by the Auto Bodyman Mechanic and placed into a sitting position. The Auto Bodyman Mechanic then went to fetch a golf cart and picked up the Service Person, driving her to the administration offices area of the garage to obtain first aid and assistance.
- 6.5 The Service Person called her father, who came to the garage and transported her to hospital. The Service Worker was placed off work on injury/illness absence. The anticipated recovery time from the diagnosed sprain injury was 4-6 weeks.
- 6.6 On October 19, 2008 the Service Person took ill at home. The Service Person was taken to hospital, where she subsequently died from medical complications resultant from the injury suffered during the workplace incident.

## **SECTION 7.0 ANALYSIS**

### **7.1 Direct Cause**

- 7.1.1 Steel plates placed on the garage floor to cover floor repairs created a potential tripping hazard. The Service Person tripped on the edge of a steel plate and suffered an injury. Her subsequent death from medical complications was not a predictable outcome of the incident.

### **7.2 Contributing Factors**

- 7.2.1 No hazard assessment had been carried out for workers using the garage while the construction work was being done.
- 7.2.2 No measures had been taken to warn workers of the potential tripping hazard.

## **SECTION 8.0 FOLLOW-UP/ ACTION TAKEN**

### **8.1 Employment and Immigration; Occupational Health and Safety**

- 8.1.2 The original incident was not reportable. Occupational Health and Safety was informed of the incident on October 20, 2008 following the death of the Service Person. Preventive measures had already been put in place and no orders were written.

**8.2 Industry**

- 8.2.1 City of Edmonton carried out an incident investigation. Following the incident City of Edmonton placed barricading around the sections of the floor that were covered with steel plates to provide a warning for workers.
- 8.2.2 City of Edmonton moved 25 buses to another location to allow more space for the construction work to take place.
- 8.2.3 A hazard assessment was completed and workers were informed of the hazard at toolbox meetings.
- 8.2.4 A safety alert was issued for distribution to other City of Edmonton locations.

**8.3 Additional Measures**

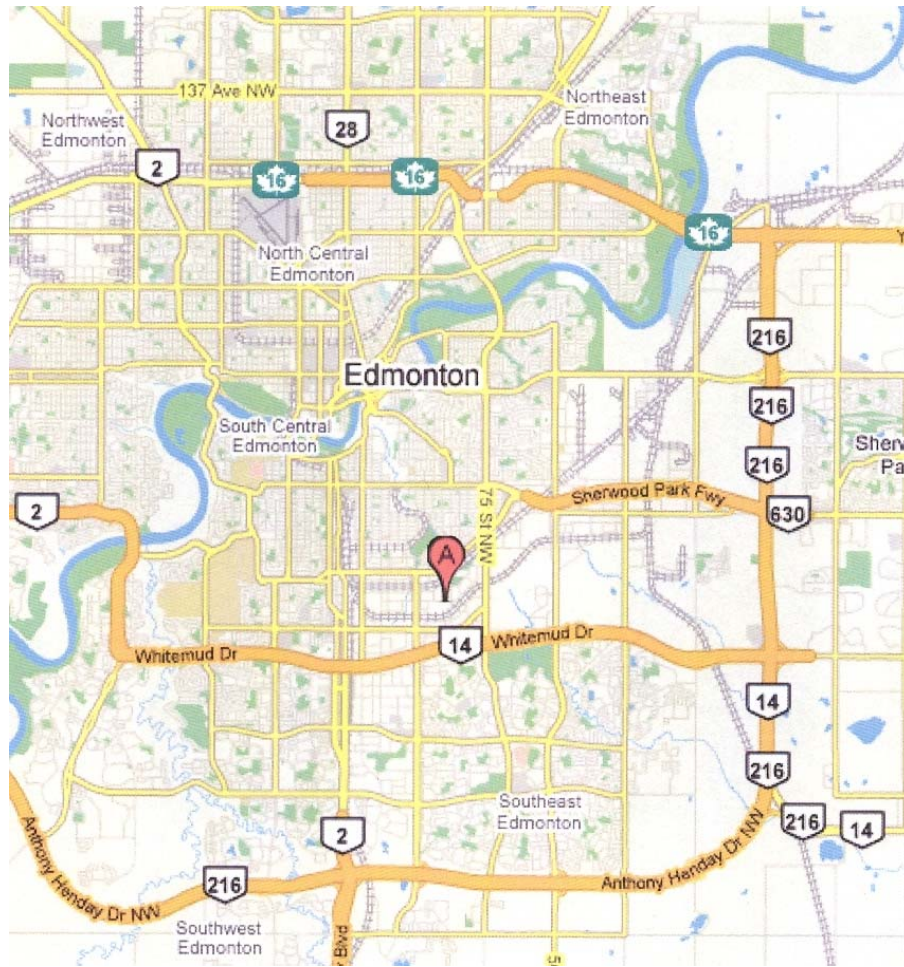
- 8.3.1 No additional measures were required.

**SECTION 9.0 SIGNATURES**

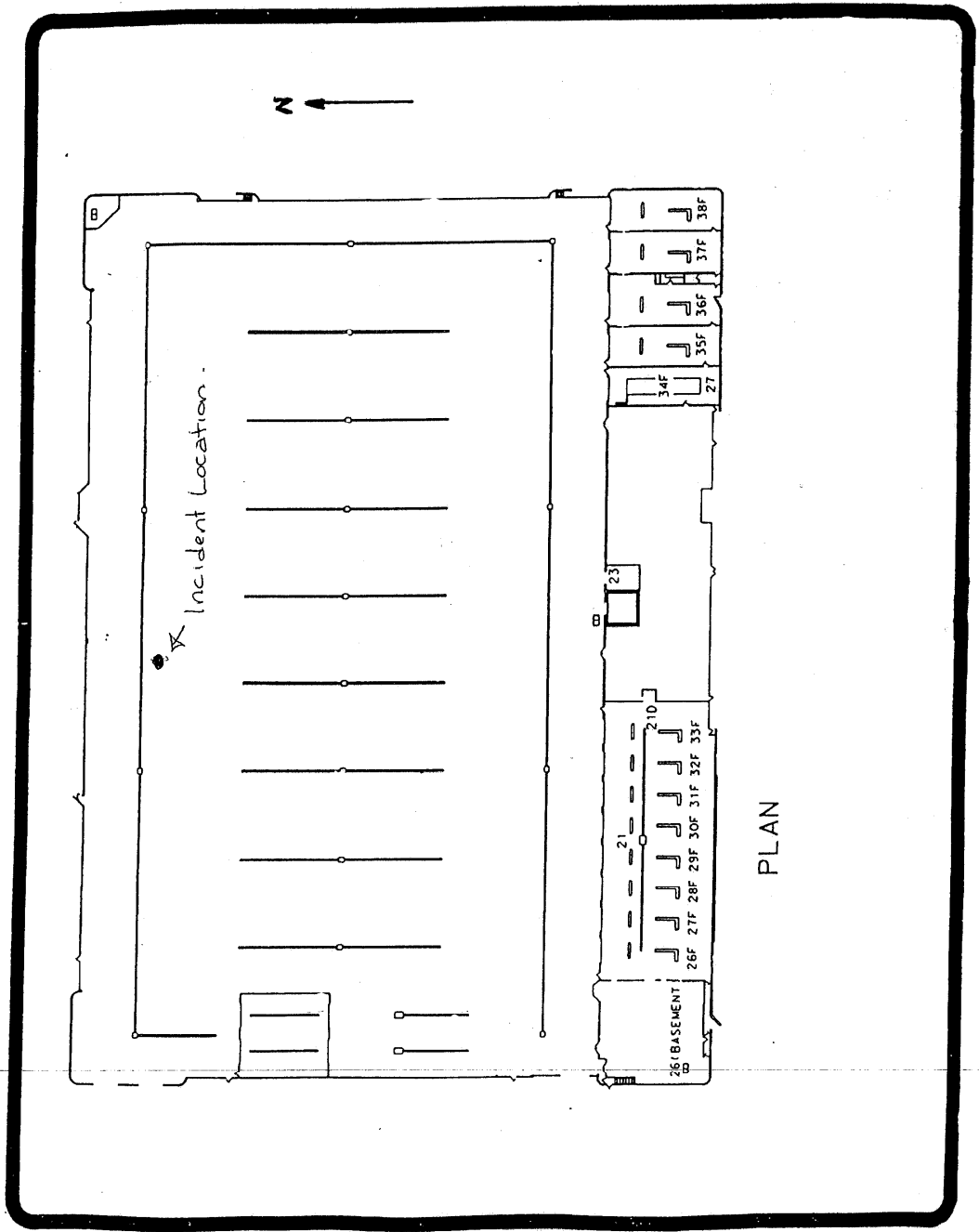
<u>Original Report Signed</u> Lead Investigator	_____
	Date
<u>Original Report Signed</u> Compliance Manager	_____
	Date
<u>Original Report Signed</u> Regional Senior Manager North	_____
	Date

**SECTION 10.0 ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A	Map
Attachment B	Diagrams
Attachment C	Photographs



File: F-1008  
Attachment "B" Sketch  
Plan View Of Ferrier Garage Showing Incident Location  
(Not To Scale)





Photograph #1

Shows an external view of the Edmonton Transit Ferrier Garage



Photograph #2

Shows the inside of the Ferrier Garage. The construction work that was being carried out to the floor in the bus barn had been completed when this photograph was taken.