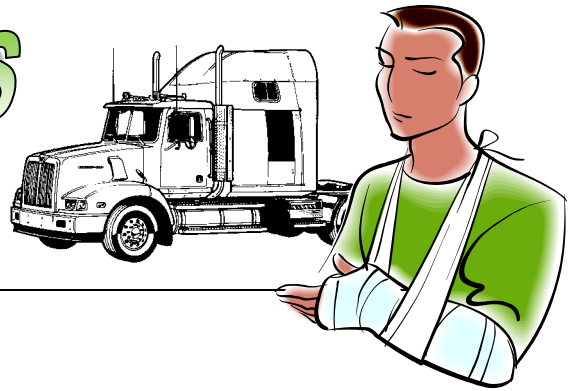


# REAL LIFE LESSONS

## FROM TRUCK DRIVERS INJURED AT WORK



### **Mr. Wizard**

“Tell us the answer, Mr. Wizard!” If any of you recall that statement then you are at least 60 years old and you remember watching that show on a small screen black and white television. It was a favorite Saturday morning show for children and it was intended to appeal to the inquisitive, scientific nature of the audience. It could be compared to the Discovery Channel viewed on television today.

At least for one young person who watched Mr. Wizard the outcome was successful. Jared grew up to be both inquisitive and somewhat scientific. However, the term used lately to describe people like him is “geek.” It used to be solely electronic geek, but it has expanded to include computer geeks as well. Jared’s interest focuses mainly on electronics – and his truck. He is a professional truck driver and has been for 30+ years.

For example, Jared was one of the first to install a CB in his truck. Thereafter he has acquired any and every type of electronic gadget to improve his life as a professional driver. The evolution of these devices would make Mr. Wizard’s head spin. What was only envisioned in the 1950’s is now commonplace in society. However, what Mr. Wizard instilled in his audience was not only the interest in technology but also the installation of the technology, and that is how Jared got hurt.

Because Jared’s driving performance was admirable, he was rewarded with a new truck last July. For some that is seen as a good thing, for others it is not. In this case it was not a good thing because Jared had to “undo” all the electronics that he had installed in his truck. He was in the process of removing an antenna from the cab of his truck when he lost his balance and fell to the pavement. Jared’s fall was serious and his recovery was complicated by his age. He was a 65 year old geek. He had watched Mr. Wizard in 1955!

### **LIFE LESSON**

What’s the lesson to be learned from Jared’s experience? Let’s ask Mr. Wizard:

- 1) All tasks should be conducted only by an individual who has been trained, equipped and authorized to perform the task.
- 2) Working at heights without fall protection equipment is not a good idea.

To simplify Mr. Wizard’s guidance – Jared should not have attempted to do what he did without adequate “safety” considerations; just like all the experiments that Jared watched on TV in 1955.



SUBMIT YOUR REAL-LIFE LESSON TO [LOSSCONTOL@MIAINS.COM](mailto:LOSSCONTOL@MIAINS.COM).  
IF WE USE IT, YOU WILL RECEIVE A \$10 WAL-MART GIFT CARD



MIDWESTERN INSURANCE ALLIANCE  
(502) 429-9990 [www.miains.com](http://www.miains.com)