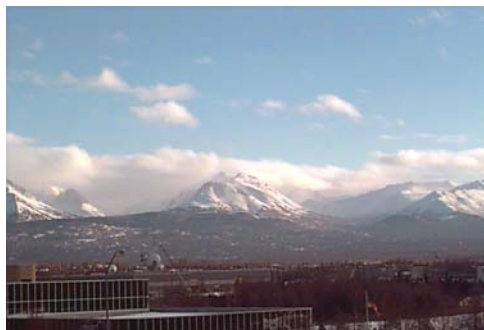


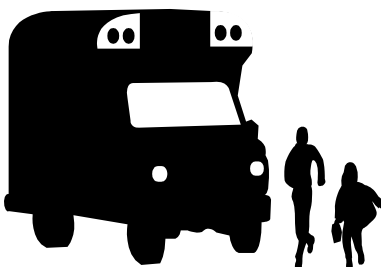
ALASKA FACE Facts

Department of Health and Social Services
Division of Public Health-Section of CHEMS
Occupational Injury Prevention Program



School Bus Driver Crushed While Preparing to Install Tire Chains on Minibus

A 54-year-old male school bus driver (the victim) died while installing tire chains on a 16-passenger minibus. While driving up a steep, icy hill, the driver was having difficulty controlling the minibus, which began slipping backward before reaching the top. The driver stopped the bus, put it in park, and engaged the emergency brake. He disembarked, walked to the back of the bus, and began installing tire chains. The bus began sliding backward and trapped him under the bumper. The bus then rotated clockwise 90 degrees and continued sliding down the hill into an embankment on the south edge of the roadway, crushing the victim between the bumper and the embankment. Several attempts to rescue the victim were



unsuccessful. NIOSH researchers determined that to prevent similar occurrences, employers should:

- **ensure that bus drivers receive training for adverse weather and road conditions and follow proper procedures for tasks such as installing tire chains**
- **consider equipping buses with studded tires for winter driving**
- **ensure that bus drivers are aware of their right to cancel certain routes if adverse road/weather conditions do not permit safe travel.**

To view previous FACE reports please visit the Occupational Injury Prevention Program website:

http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/chems/occupation_injury

or

Call or fax your request to:

907-269-5221 (phone) 907-269-5236 (fax)

To receive the latest FACE updates via the Internet please send an email to djilly@health.state.ak.us