

A \$400,000 JUDGMENT

The following article appeared in the *Oakland Tribune*, October 21, 1972.

\$400,000 Award In Electrocution

MARTINEZ — The widow and five children of a Concord man electrocuted on a construction job near Moraga two and one-half years ago have been awarded \$400,000 in wrongful death damages in Contra Costa Superior Court.

A jury of seven men and five women returned the verdict yesterday afternoon in favor of Mrs. Lois Gordon and five minor children following a three-week trial in the court of Judge Martin E. Rothenberg.

The case had gone to the jury shortly before 11 a.m. Thursday.

The plaintiffs had sought \$750,000.

James D. Gordon, 30, of 835 Mitchell Canyon Road, Concord, was killed April 10, 1970, when the metal boom of a truck he was driving came into contact with a 12,000-volt overhead power line.

Defendants found liable for the \$400,000 in damages were the Clancy Construction Co., Gordon Clancy and the C&D Investment Group, all of Castro Valley, and Challenge-Cook Brothers, Industrial City, Calif.

At the time of his death, Gordon, an employe of the Superior Crane Service in Concord, was operating a cement pumper manufactured by Challenge-Cook.

The suit alleged the defendants carelessly and negligently failed to provide safe working conditions for Gordon.

Edward M. Digardi of Oakland, the plaintiff's attorney, claimed the pumper had been built without a warning device which could have alerted the operator as the boom approached electrical wires. Such a device was demonstrated during the trial.

Sigalarm™ was the device demonstrated at the trial.



A Safety System By Construction Products Division,
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Dear Sirs:

Recently a widow and her five minor children were awarded \$400,000 in a wrongful death action. The employee of a Crane Service was electrocuted when the boom of his equipment came in contact with a 12,000 volt overhead power line.

The defendants found liable for the \$400,000 in damages were the construction company, the owners of the project, and the original equipment manufacturer.

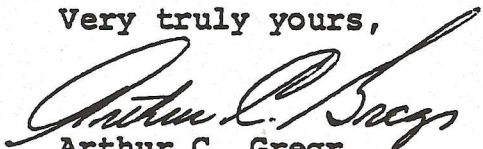
The suit alleged the defendants carelessly and negligently failed to provide safe working conditions. The plaintiff's attorney claimed the boom equipment had been built without a warning device which could have alerted the operator as the boom approached electrical wires.

It is becoming more apparent that safety systems for boom equipment can no longer be ignored in the construction environment. In every study concerning safety in construction the "worst first" piece of equipment is boom type, and boom type equipments greatest hazard is the overhead power lines.

Construction Products Division of Bower Industries, Inc. would like to present SIGALARM to you. SIGALARM is a reliable and stable power line monitoring safety system for use on boom oriented equipment. We are enclosing a SIGALARM descriptive brochure for your information.

Every contact with an overhead power line is a potential death - Let SIGALARM be the eyes and ears of your boom equipment.

Very truly yours,


Arthur C. Gregor
Sigalarm Product Manager

ACG:sa

enclosure (s)

