A machine operator who worked for a liquid deicer distributing company was killed when he was run over by a front-end loader at a city salt stockyard. He was walking around the loader working area performing conveyer maintenance. A city equipment operator backed the loader out of a storage shed and struck the victim. The loader was missing two side-rearview mirrors and the victim was not wearing a high visibility safety vest. Also, there was no radio communication between the victim and the city equipment operators. (Case Report: 04NY002)

HOW CAN THIS BE PREVENTED?

► Employers should set up a traffic control plan to coordinate the movements of all workers at the site, whether they are on foot or operating mobile equipment.
► Repair damaged equipment in a timely manner.
► Consider using additional safety devices on mobile equipment to warn operators about people or objects in blind spots.
► All employees and contractors should wear high visibility safety vests.
► Develop standard procedures for informing contractors of potential safety hazards.