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***NY silo fire LODD prompts safety, tactics report***

**The silo exploded and killed an assistant fire chief after he closed hatches at the top of the structure**

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NEW YORK — A silo explosion killing a New York assistant chief was due to unrecognized hazards and the decision to close hatches at the top of the silo, according to a new firefighter fatality investigation.

Sackets Harbor Assistant Fire Chief Garrett W. Loomis was killed while responding to the fire on April 11 last year, according to the NIOSH report.

The 26-year-old volunteer firefighter had arrived on scene to notice open hatches resembling doors on the silo, and climbed up an attached ladder to close the hatches.

As he was descending, the silo exploded and caused part of the ladder to detach from the silo, sending Chief Loomis on a 30-foot fall to the ground.

A firefighter on scene performed CPR and Chief Loomis was transported to a local hospital where he died.

As a result of the death, NIOSH investigators are calling for fire departments to prepare and train on SOGs specific to firefighting at structures including oxygen-limiting silos.

**Read complete article at Firerescue1.com: [NY silo fire LODD prompts safety, tactics report](#)**

**Read complete NIOSH Report: [Volunteer Assistant Fire Chief Dies at a Silo Fire/Explosion - New York](#)**