



## **Work Safety Alert** **Trapped by a Fork-lift Truck**

**1. Date of Accident :** February 2014

**2. Place of Accident :** A building site

**3. Summary :**

A fork-lift truck operator was trapped to death between the mast and the metal frame of the driving cabin of the fork-lift truck which was used for dumping of construction waste materials.

**4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :**

Contractors/employers should take adequate steps to ensure the safe use of a fork-lift truck, including:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments with due regard to nature of the operation, the site layout and the work environment;
- formulating and implementing an effective safe system of work, which should, among others, ensure that:
  - the engine of the fork-lift truck is switched off with the brake applied, and the key or other activating device is removed when the operator gets off the driving cabin;
  - no access of persons to the part between the mast and its driving cabin is allowed while the fork-lift truck is in an operating condition;
  - operating the fork-lift truck outside the driving cabin is prohibited;



- any load is proper stacked or de-stacked; and
- the fork-lift truck and its attachments are properly maintained and in good working order;
- providing the fork-lift truck operators and workers with adequate information, training and instruction in respect of the above safe system of work; and
- implementing effective monitoring and supervision to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

## 5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings \(Loadshifting Machinery\) Regulation](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Loadshifting Machines for Earth Moving Operations on Construction sites](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Guidance Notes for Safe Use of Fork-lift Trucks](#)<sup>1</sup>

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### DISCLAIMER

This Work Safety Alert (“the Alert”) is issued at the earliest possible opportunity after a serious accident with a view to drawing the attention of interested parties to the general safety precautionary measures necessary to protect people engaging in similar work activities. The material contained in the Alert constitutes general guidance only. It does not reduce, limit, or replace, any legal obligations upon any person to comply with any statutory duties under relevant legislation. Users such as Managers and Supervisors should make their own evaluation of the information contained in the Alert to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices. The Labour Department does NOT accept any responsibilities for any loss or damage resulting from the use of or failure to use of the information on the Alert.

<sup>1</sup> Click to view the document