



Work Safety Alert
Struck by a Telescopic Boom
Detached from a Lorry-mounted Crane

1. **Date of Accident :** June 2014
2. **Place of Accident :** A car park in an open area
3. **Summary :**

A crane operator was struck to death by a telescopic boom detached from a lorry-mounted crane during unloading operation.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :

The owner of a crane and the contractor responsible for any lifting operations should:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments and devise a lifting plan with due regard to the selection, position and operation of the crane, the slinging method and the work environment;
- ensure that the crane is certified to be in safe working order before it is used through periodic tests and thorough examinations by a competent examiner and regular inspections by a competent person;
- formulate and implement an effective safe system of work which should include the following:
 - appointing a lifting supervisor or a responsible person to oversee the lifting operation;



- ensuring that the manufacturer's instructions in respect of levelling of the crane, proper extension of outriggers beams and jacks, and restriction of lifting operations within specified working range are strictly followed;
 - setting up a danger zone for the lifting operation and exercising strict access control measures with suitable warning notices prominently displayed to prevent unauthorized entry of persons;
 - stationing a signaller to give effective signals to the crane operator if he does not have a clear and unrestricted view within the operation zone of the crane; and
 - ensuring that an effective communication system, among all personnel involved in any work activities that may be affected by the lifting operation on site, is in place before the commencement of the lifting operation;
- provide crane operators and the workers involved with adequate information, training and instruction in respect of the safe system of work for lifting operations, manufacturer's instruction, functioning of safety devices and constraints/limitation unique to the crane;
 - ensure the crane is checked and maintained regularly to confirm its state for safe operation; and
 - implement effective monitoring and supervision to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.



5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings \(Lifting Appliances and Lifting Gear\) Regulations](#)¹
- [Code of Practice for Safe Use of Mobile Cranes](#)¹
- [《地盤意外個案簡析系列 – 流動式起重機》](#)¹ (Chinese Version Only)

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.

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