



Work Safety Alert
Trapped in between the Driving Cabin
and the Boom of an Excavator

1. Date of Accident : September 2015

2. Place of Accident : An open yard

3. Summary :

An excavator operator was trapped in between the driving cabin and the descending boom of the excavator while he was operating the excavator. He sustained serious head injury and passed away on the same day.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :

To prevent any workers from being endangered by the operation of loadshifting machinery, contractors/ employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the followings:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments of the operation of the loadshifting machinery and identify all associated potential hazards;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the operation of the loadshifting machinery with due regard to the results of risk assessments;
- ensuring that suitable loadshifting machinery is used for the work and the machinery including all its parts is properly maintained;
- ensuring that the loadshifting machinery is certified to be in safe working order before it is used through tests and thorough examinations by a competent examiner and regular inspections by a competent person;



- ensuring that the loadshifting machinery is only operated by a person who holds a valid certificate relevant to the type of the machine;
- ensuring that there is no unauthorised use of the loadshifting machinery by keeping the ignition key of the machine in good custody when it is not in use;
- engaging a signaler to give effective signals to the operator who does not have a clear and unrestricted view during operation;
- providing all workers involved with relevant safety information, instruction and necessary training to ensure that the safe working practices are adopted when operating loadshifting machinery; and
- developing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that the above safety precautionary measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Code of Practice on Safe Use of Excavators](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Loadshifting Machines for Earth Moving Operations on Construction sites](#)¹
- [地盤意外個案簡析系列 — 搬土機械](#)¹ (Chinese Version Only)

¹ Click to view the document



職業安全及健康部
Occupational Safety and Health Branch
勞工處
Labour Department



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