



Work Safety Alert

Truck Being Lifted by a Gantry Crane

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2014
2. **Place of Accident :** A container terminal

3. **Summary :**

A container truck, loaded with a container, was lifted up by a gantry crane to a height well above the ground. The truck driver managed to escape from the driver's cabin shortly after the truck was being lifted.

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

To prevent accidental lifting of a container truck by a gantry crane, proprietor/employer should provide and maintain a safe system of work for unloading of containers from the truck which should, among others, include the following:

- conduct task-specific risk assessments and formulate appropriate safe working procedures to ensure that all twistlocks of every trailer should be completely disengaged from the container it carries and remain in the disengaged position before it is allowed to enter any unloading area for unloading;
- develop and implement engineering control measures to ensure that the container on the truck cannot be lifted up by the gantry crane if the container has not been completely disengaged from the trailer;
- develop and maintain an effective preventive maintenance programme to ensure that all safety devices are maintained in an efficient state and functioning effectively at all times;



- provide necessary safety information, instruction, training and supervision to all the personnel involved in the operation; and
- establish and implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure strict and full compliance with all the above safety measures and precautions.

5. Reference :

- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance \(Sections 6A & 6B\) - Know your General Duties](#)¹

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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