



Work Safety Alert Falling from an Extended Outrigger of a Truck-mounted Crane

1. **Date of Accident :** September 2016
2. **Place of Accident :** A public car park in an open area
3. **Summary :**

A crane operator while operating a truck-mounted crane by standing on one of its outriggers, fell down to the ground for about 1.5 metres as he was struck by a displaced object. He sustained serious head injury and passed away a few days later.

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

To safeguard any person from being struck by any displaced object during a lifting operation, the owner of the crane/ employer should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the lifting operation, taking into account the size, weight and position of the loads and other objects nearby, the slinging methods and the working environment;
- formulating appropriate safe work methods and procedures with due regard to the results of risk assessments, including the implementation of a safe lifting plan covering safety measures for the lifting operation;



- appointing a competent and experienced lifting supervisor to oversee the lifting operation to ensure that all risks are effectively managed;
- refraining the crane operator and any other persons from staying on the outrigger of a mobile crane or any other improper footholds to carry out the lifting operation;
- demarcating and barricading a lifting zone for the operation and practising strict access control with suitable warning notices posted in the vicinity to block unauthorised entry into the zone;
- where any object nearby is liable to be displaced by the load being lifted, securing the object beforehand or otherwise taking steps to ensure that no person will be endangered by such object if being displaced;
- ensuring that the crane operator and any other persons engaged in the lifting operation all stay away from the lifting path as far as possible;
- engaging a signaler to give effective signals to the crane operator who does not have a clear and unrestricted view during the lifting operation;
- ensuring that an effective communication system among all persons engaged in the lifting operation is in place throughout the lifting operation;
- providing all persons engaged in the lifting operation with a suitable safety helmet with a chin strap and ensuring the proper wearing of the safety helmet by them;
- providing necessary safety information, instruction and training to all persons engaged in the lifting operation and ensuring that they are fully conversant with the safe work procedures and safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure the above safety measures are strictly followed.



5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [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
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)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.

Note: The material contained in the Alert is not exhaustive, and will be supplemented/ adjusted where necessary if more relevant information comes to light.

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