



## Work Safety Alert

### Overturning of a Truck-mounted Crane

1. **Date of Accident :** March 2016
2. **Place of Accident :** A construction site
3. **Summary :**

A truck-mounted crane toppled in the course of lifting up some sheet piles at a construction site.

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

To ensure the safe use of mobile cranes, the crane owner/ contractor/ 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 a task specific risk assessment in identifying all potential hazards associated with the lifting operations;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the lifting operations based on the results of the risk assessment, including the implementation of a safe lifting plan covering the selection of suitable crane/ lifting gear, consideration of proper siting of the crane, etc.;
- appointing a competent lifting supervisor for overall control of the lifting operations;
- ensuring that the mobile crane is not used unless it is fitted with an automatic safe load indicator that functions properly to avoid overloading of the crane;



- ensuring that the mobile crane is in safe working order prior to operation through tests and thorough examinations by a competent examiner and regular inspections by a competent person;
- exercising stringent control measures to ensure proper setup of outriggers;
- observing the manufacturer's instructions to ensure the stability of the crane, such as levelling of the crane, extending outrigger beams and jacks and restricting lifting operations to the specified working ranges;
- siting the crane on solid ground and using suitable mat or timber blocking with area of at least 3 times of the outrigger's float for complete and secure support of the float;
- ensuring that every chain, rope or other lifting gear to be used for lifting is tested, thoroughly examined and certified safe by a competent examiner, with valid certificates seen before use;
- assigning a competent person to check every chain, rope and lifting gear before use on each occasion to ensure that it is free from patent defects;
- adopting a proper rigging method for handling a load, with due regard to the weight, shape and nature of the load to ensure the balance of the load throughout the lifting process;
- ensuring that the mobile crane is only operated by a person who holds a valid certificate relevant to the type of the crane;
- providing crane operators and workers/ employees involved with adequate information, training and instruction in respect of the safe system of work for lifting operations; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure strict compliance with all the above safety measures.



## 5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings \(Lifting Appliances and Lifting Gear\) Regulations<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Code of Practice for Safe Use of Mobile Cranes<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [地盤意外個案簡析系列 — 流動式起重機<sup>1</sup>](#) (Chinese only)
- [Safe Systems of Work<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training<sup>1</sup>](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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.

---

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