



Work Safety Alert Struck by Moving Vehicle on Expressway

1. **Date of Accident :** June 2016
2. **Place of Accident :** On an expressway
3. **Summary :**

Three workers while clearing the set-up for lane closure on an expressway after road surface repairing work were knocked down by a moving vehicle. As a result, all of them sustained fatal injuries.

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

To prevent any workers/ employees engaged in road works including setting up and removal of lane closure on expressways from being endangered by moving vehicles, the responsible contractors/ employers 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 in identifying all potential hazards, particularly those related to traffic and emergency situations, taking into account the nature of work, flow of traffic and movement of workers to-and-fro the work area;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures prior to the work including the setting up and removing lane closure with due regard to the results of risk assessments, and in line with relevant codes of practice and guidelines;



- as far as practicable, giving advance warnings on road works ahead to alert drivers through a notification system to be displayed as early as possible;
- ensuring that the procedures for setting up and removing lane closure are performed in accordance with relevant codes of practice. While erecting/removing advance warning signs, works vehicles should be followed by shadow vehicle mounted with a flashing arrow sign and a suitable truck mounted attenuator in such a way as to provide the earliest possible warning to drivers;
- adopting road diversion display and avoiding the arrangement of workers/ employees to physically guide vehicles as far as possible and ensuring that all workers/ employees who have to carry out their duties on roads are safe by position;
- where practicable, employing automated machinery for laying/ retrieval of traffic cones so as to reduce workers' exposure to oncoming traffic;
- placing plant, equipment and tools as far away as practicable from the moving vehicles;
- arranging the operation to be performed with the workers/ employees concerned facing oncoming traffic as far as possible;
- providing all workers/ employees involving works on expressways with personal protective equipment as necessary such as reflective jackets and ensuring their proper use of the equipment;
- depending on the traffic density and road conditions, seeking assistance from the Police when setting up or subsequently removing a lane closure on an expressway if necessary;
- providing all workers/ employees with adequate information, instruction and training and ensuring that they are conversant with the safe work procedures and safety measures; and



- developing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)¹
- [Code of Practice for the Lighting, Signing and Guarding of Road Works by the Highways Department](#)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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