



## Work Safety Alert Trapped by the Conveyor Belt of a Concrete Batching Plant

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2016
2. **Place of Accident :** A concrete batching plant

### 3. **Summary :**

An operator while working at a concrete batching plant was trapped to death between a conveyor belt and the nearby metal framework as the conveyor belt was suddenly put into motion.

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

To prevent workers from being endangered by any dangerous/ moving parts of machinery such as a conveyor belt system during the inspection, maintenance or repair of the machinery, the proprietors/ 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 associated with the work, taking into account the working environment, the nature of work, the machinery configuration and the equipment/ tools to be used;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the inspection, maintenance or repair work with due regard to the results of risk assessments;
- providing effective guarding to all dangerous parts and/or fencing off danger zones where moving parts are exposed with suitable barriers in order to avoid any persons being endangered by any dangerous/ moving parts of the machinery;



- exercising strict access control and displaying suitable warning notices at prominent positions to restrict unauthorised access into the danger zone;
- where temporary removal of the guarding/ barriers to the dangerous parts/ exposed moving parts is required or access to the danger zone cannot be avoided during inspection, maintenance or repair of machinery, adopting a permit-to-work system with appropriate safety measures in place such that, among others, access to the danger zone would only be permitted after the power supply of the machinery has been switched off and locked with suitable warning notices displayed;
- ensuring that inspection, maintenance or repair of the machinery are carried out by a person who is competent by virtue of training and practical experience;
- taking all necessary steps to ensure that a communication system is provided to all personnel involved in the inspection, maintenance or repair work for effective coordination;
- providing necessary safety information, instruction and training to all workers/ employees concerned and ensuring that they are familiar 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](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Handbook on Guarding and Operation of Machinery](#)<sup>1</sup>

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



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**Occupational Safety and Health Branch**  
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**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.