



Work Safety Alert **Knocked Down by a Tow Truck**

1. Date of Accident : November 2021

2. Place of Accident : A Bus Depot

3. Summary :

A female cleaning worker while walking across a driveway in a bus depot was knocked down by a tow truck. She sustained serious bodily injury and passed away in hospital on the same day.

4. Work Safety Alert for Proprietors / Employers:

To prevent any workers from being endangered by moving vehicles in a workplace, the responsible 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 to identify all potential hazards associated with the moving vehicles within the workplace, taking into account the workplace environment, size and type of vehicles maneuvering at the workplace, traffic routes, and movement of workers;
- formulating and implementing an effective traffic management system with due regard to the results of the risk assessments and relevant safety guidelines;
- setting safe layout for the workplace transport, among others,
 - arranging workplace traffic routes in an one-way system as far as practicable to limit reversing and prevent conflicting movements caused by “two-way” traffic flow, particularly around corners and



at crossing points;

- where worker and vehicle routes cross, providing appropriate suitably marked and signposted crossing points for workers to use;
 - providing and maintaining safe walkways away from moving vehicles and demarcating designated walkways for workers by suitable barriers and signages if practicable;
 - displaying notices at prominent locations to alert workers to the moving vehicles and reminding them of using the designated walkways;
 - exercising control measures to avoid unauthorised entry into operating zones and driveways of moving vehicles;
- ensuring every driver pays particular attention to possible presence of work personnel or other persons in the vicinity before starting the vehicle, and bears in mind the blind spots at the front and rear of the vehicle;
 - where appropriate, fitting extra mirrors, reversing alarms or sensors, and closed-circuit television to cope with the poor visibility from the cab to the side or front of a vehicle as well as behind;
 - ensuring every worker who is working on or near the driveways is wearing a high visibility or reflective jacket so that they could easily be seen;
 - providing all workers concerned with the necessary safety information, instruction and training in respect of the traffic management system, and ensuring that they are familiar with the relevant safety measures; and
 - establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.



5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training¹](#)

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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