



## **Work Safety Alert**

### **Overturning of a Wheel-mounted Crane**

- 1. Date of Accident :** May 2017
- 2. Place of Accident :** A building construction site

**3. Summary :**

A wheel-mounted crane toppled in the course of lifting a skip of concrete at a construction site.

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

To ensure safe lifting with the 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 to identify all potential hazards associated with crane operation, taking into account factors concerning the size and weight of the loads, ground conditions and the working environment;
- formulating a lifting plan and safe work methods and procedures for implementation during lifting operation with due consideration of the risk assessment results, including the selection of suitable crane/ lifting gears, consideration of proper siting of the crane as well as the competency of the workers involved;
- appointing a competent lifting supervisor for overall control of the lifting operations;
- ensuring that the mobile crane has been certified in safe working order through tests and thorough examinations by a competent examiner and regular inspections by a competent person before it is put into operation;



- 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 only operated by a person who holds a valid certificate relevant to the type of the crane;
- observing manufacturer's instructions to ensure the stability of the mobile crane, such as properly levelling the crane, fully extending the outriggers and restricting lifting operation to the specified working ranges;
- exercising stringent control measures to ensure proper setup of outriggers;
- siting the mobile crane on solid ground and using suitable mat or timber blocking with area of at least three times of the outrigger's float for complete and secure support of the float;
- 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 travelling acceleration, slewing motions and braking action are operated gently to limit the swing of the load;
- providing crane operators and workers/ employees involved with adequate information, training and instruction in respect of the safe system of work for crane operations; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure strict compliance with all the above safety measures.

## 5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)<sup>1</sup>

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



- [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 Version only)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)<sup>1</sup>

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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.