



Work Safety Alert

Trapped to Death by a Loader under Repair

1. **Date of Accident :** June 2018
2. **Place of Accident :** A machinery depot
3. **Summary :**

A loader under repair at a machinery depot was raised at the front by pressing its bucket against the ground. A maintenance worker undertaking the repair work was found somehow trapped between the lifting arm of the bucket and a front wheel of the loader. He was certified dead later on the same day.

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

To ensure the safety of workers/ employees engaged in inspection, maintenance and repair of a loader, the proprietor/ 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 task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with plant inspection, maintenance or repair work, taking into account the nature of work to be carried out, the working environment and the equipment involved;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for plant inspection, maintenance or repair work with due regard to the results of the risk assessments, and the instructions and specifications prescribed by the manufacturer of the plant;
- ensuring that the loader and all its parts that may create any trapping zone are properly and securely supported in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations or specifications;



- prohibiting any person from working at any trapping zone of the loader, such as between its lifting arm and wheels, unless the trapping hazard is effectively eliminated;
- demarcating and properly barricading an operating zone for the inspection, maintenance or repair work and exercising strict access control with suitable warning notices displayed at prominent positions to prohibit unauthorised entry into the zone;
- ensuring that all the inspection, maintenance or repair work are carried out by a person who is competent by virtue of his training and practical experience, and has an adequate working knowledge of the plant;
- providing all workers/ employees involved with the necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and the necessary safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Loadshifting Machines for Earth Moving Operations on Construction sites](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)¹

¹ Click to view document



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Note: The material contained in the Alert is not exhaustive, and will be supplemented/ adjusted where necessary if more relevant information comes to light.