



Work Safety Alert Fallen into Sea together with a Bulldozer

1. **Date of Accident :** August 2019
2. **Place of Accident :** A reclamation site
3. **Summary :**

A worker while operating a bulldozer for earthmoving work in a reclamation site, fell into the sea together with the bulldozer. The worker was sent to hospital and passed away on the same day.

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

To prevent a worker from falling into the water when operating a mobile plant such as a bulldozer on a construction site near water, the contractor/ employer responsible for the work 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 work, taking into account the site layout, the type of the mobile plant for use on the site near water, the nature, size and complexity of work performed and the work environment;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regards to the results of risk assessments, and following the requirements of safety legislation, relevant codes of practice and safety guidelines;
- installing kerbs at the edges over water whenever practicable if the mobile plant is used on a site near water;
- if a kerb is required, constructing the kerb to a height at least 250mm above the working surface and at a distance at least 500mm from the edge near water;



- if there is a foreseeable risk of falling into water, providing a suitable lifejacket to the plant operator and ensuring his wearing of it;
- organising a rescue team and formulating emergency procedures to deal with emergency situations, such as accidents;
- providing suitable and sufficient rescue equipment for use in emergency rescue operations;
- providing and keeping ready for immediate use rescue boat whenever workmen are employed to work over or adjacent to turbulent or tidal water where rescue of them would have to be carried out by boat;
- providing all workers/ employees concerned with the necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures, safety measures and emergency procedures; 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](#)
- [Code of Practice for Safety and Health at Work \(Land-based Construction over Water – Prevention of Fall\)¹](#)
- [Safe Guide for Construction Work over / near Water¹](#)



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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.

¹ Click to view document