



## Work Safety Alert Struck by a Concrete Skip under Lifting

1. **Date of Accident :** April 2021
2. **Place of Accident :** A construction site
3. **Summary :**

While a lorry-mounted crane was being operated for concreting work at an excavation, it suddenly tilted and the concrete skip under lifting struck against a concreting worker who passed away on the same day.

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

To ensure the lifting operation by a mobile crane is safe, 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 the lifting operation, taking into account all relevant factors including the size and weight of the loads, ground conditions and the working environment in the vicinity;
- formulating a lifting plan with due consideration to the risk assessment's results, including the selection of suitable lifting appliances/ lifting gears, proper siting of the mobile crane as well as the competency of the workers involved; and following the requirements of relevant safety legislation, codes of practice and guidelines to minimise the risks exposed to the workers/ employees;
- appointing a competent and experienced lifting supervisor to oversee the lifting operation, including the siting of the mobile crane to ensure that all risks are effectively managed;



- 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 putting into use;
- ensuring that the mobile crane is checked and maintained regularly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to ensure it is in good construction and safe for operation;
- ensuring that the mobile crane is not used unless it is fitted with an automatic safe load indicator that functions properly and that the crane will not be used beyond its safe working load;
- observing manufacturer's recommendations and instructions to ensure the stability of the mobile crane, such as levelling, extension of outriggers and restricting lifting operation within the specified working ranges of the jib;
- exercising stringent control measures to ensure proper setup of outriggers;
- ensuring the mobile cranes should only be operated on uniform, level and firm ground with sufficient load bearing capacity to withstand the maximum in-service loadings of the crane, with the consideration of wind loadings and dynamic effect;
- distributing the loading over a sufficiently large area to avoid the sinkage or collapse of the supporting surface and overturning or collapse of the mobile crane;
- 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 (unless a smaller area is specified by the manufacturer) for complete and secure support of the float;
- When operating close to the edge of a soil slope or an unsupported soil excavation, ensuring that a safe distance from the edge should be maintained;
- ensuring that the mobile crane is only operated by a person who holds a valid certificate relevant to the type of the crane;



- ensuring that no workers/ employees work or stay underneath the materials being lifted;
- ensuring the safety of all workers/ employees involved and other persons who may be affected by the lifting operation, including the proper fencing off of all lifting zones with suitable warning notices displayed as far as reasonably practicable;
- where it is not reasonably practicable to fence off the lifting zones, taking effective measures, such as appointment of sufficient watch-out personnel, to ensure that no unauthorised entry into the zones;
- providing mobile crane operators and workers/ employees involved in the lifting operation with adequate information, instruction and training 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 of the above safety measures.

## 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>
- [Code of Practice for Safe Use of Mobile Cranes](#)<sup>1</sup>

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



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