



Work Safety Alert **Struck by Water Pipes**

- 1. Date of Accident :** November 2014
- 2. Place of Accident :** A road work site
- 3. Summary :**

A bundle of water pipes stacked on a lorry-mounted crane about to be unloaded suddenly slid out and hit a worker to his death.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :

To prevent any person from being struck by loads stacked on a crane, contractors/employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments and devise a lifting plan with due regard to the nature of work, load stacking methods, stability of the crane and the working environment;
- appoint a competent person to oversee and control lifting operations;
- follow the manufacturer's instructions in respect of leveling of the crane, proper extension of outriggers beams and restrictions of lifting operations;
- unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer, ensure that the crane is being operated on uniform, level and firm ground;
- take adequate safety measures to avoid any accidental displacement of the loads stacked on the crane ;
- provide adequate information, instruction and safety training to the workers involved; and



- develop and implement an effective monitoring and supervision system to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹

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.

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