



## Work Safety Alert Struck by Falling Metal Pipes

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2024
2. **Place of Accident :** An open storage yard
3. **Summary :**

While standing beside a lorry-mounted crane in an open storage yard, a worker was struck by metal pipes that suddenly rolled off the deck of a lorry-mounted crane shortly after unfastening tightening straps for fixing the metal pipes. The worker was certified dead later on the same day.

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

To ensure the occupational safety of workers engaged in loading/ unloading of loads, proprietors/ employers should provide and maintain the following precautionary measures:

- stacking, stabilising and handling the loads properly to prevent them from displacement in the course of rigging/ unrigging operations;
- utilising securing measures of sufficient strength, such as rigid supports, restraints or straps, to ensure that loads remain stable, when the tightening straps are unfastened before the loads are fully supported by lifting equipment;
- ensuring that all workers involved in rigging/ unrigging operations have been properly trained in rigging, are capable of using rigging methods suitable for the loads, and stay away from danger zones during lifting;
- appointing a competent supervisor to oversee the loading/ unloading operation including stability of the loads, rigging/ unrigging of the loads, etc. to ensure that all risks are effectively eliminated or mitigated;



- setting up and implementing a safe system of work with an effective monitoring and control system for the loading/ unloading operation; and
- providing all workers involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and relevant safety measures.

## 5. Reference<sup>1</sup> :

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

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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.

<sup>1</sup> [Click to view document](#)