



Work Safety Alert Trapped between Excavator and Dump Truck

1. **Date of Accident :** July 2024
2. **Place of Accident :** A construction site
3. **Summary :**

A dump truck driver was trapped between the back of a dump truck and the rear part of a slewing excavator to death.

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

To prevent any workers from being endangered by plant in operation, the contractors/ employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work, which may 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 work involved, taking into account all relevant factors including the working environment, movement of the plant and the workers working in the vicinity;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the operation of the plant with due regard to the results of risk assessments, the requirements of safety legislation, relevant codes of practice and guidelines to minimise the risks of workers;
- demarcating and fencing off the operating zone of the plant as far as reasonably practicable with suitable warning notices displayed and control measures adopted to prevent any unauthorised entry into the fenced off area;
- ensuring an unobstructed passageway, not less than 600 mm wide, is maintained between any part of the plant liable to move and any nearby plant/ installation/ fixture; and where it is not practicable to maintain



such passageway, ensuring that no person is allowed to get close to the plant when it is in use;

- ensuring that there is adequate visibility of the surrounding from the operator's seat to enable safe operation of the plant, and, where necessary, providing aids such as mirrors, and CCTV, etc. to improve visibility if direct view is inadequate; equipping the plant with suitable safety devices, such as reverse warning device, amber flashing lights for reversing motion and smart devices to alert workers nearby. All devices shall be properly maintained and function properly at all times;
- assigning a banksman to give signal to the operator if the plant needs to be operated in special circumstances such as in a congested work environment or close to nearby plant/ fixture. Attention should be drawn to the working position of the banksman to avoid danger by the movement of any plant operating in the vicinity;
- ensuring that every worker in the operating zone for the plant is wearing a high visibility or reflective vest;
- providing all workers involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

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



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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.

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