

SAFETY ALERT

UK SA07/2020 – 16.03.20

Display Until
25.09.20



DRIVER FRACTURES BOTH ANKLES FALLING FROM HEIGHT

DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT

A contractor tipper driver had completed one delivery and was returning to re-load. Before entering the quarry, he stopped outside to open the automated sheet. The sheet was stuck, so the driver climbed onto the vehicle gantry and noticed some stone on the sheet. He then climbed onto the sheet to try and clear the stone with a shovel. At this point the mechanism suddenly activated, throwing the driver backwards to the ground and the shovel in the opposite direction. The driver landed on his feet, resulting in fractures to both ankles and a broken leg which had to be pinned.

KEY FINDINGS

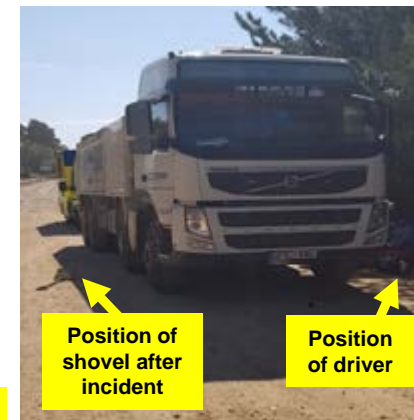
- The vehicle was not taxed and the annual MOT expired in February 2020.
- As part of the investigation the contractor provided several falsified legal documents and a photo copy of a counterfeit Driver Skills Card.
- The driver had a site induction; however his lack of a MPQC Driver Skills Card wasn't noted.
- Several problems were found with the vehicle, including lack of grab rails, dirty steps and obscured windscreen

HOW COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED?

- By keeping vehicles and vehicle equipment properly maintained in a serviceable condition.
- Robust defect reporting systems.
- Maintaining 3 points of contact and ensuring steps and boots are free from dirt/debris.
- Effective contractor and driver vetting

KEY REVIEW POINTS

- Ensure drivers have an effective induction and valid MPQC Driver Skills Card prior to loading.
- Ensure drivers report all defects and rectify in a timely manner.
- Ensure a contractor pre-qualification process is in place, to include a review of legal documentation.



Look after yourself and each other

Don't let anyone act unsafely, always stop unsafe practices.

Get a grip

Hold handrails on stairways and use three points of contact when getting into/out of vehicles.

Tools and Equipment

Use the right, well maintained, tools/equipment for the job. Never make do.

Isolation Procedures

Never work on live or moving machinery – always 'lock out'.

Safe Systems

Follow safe systems of work, site rules, signage and traffic signals.

Working At Height

Use appropriate access equipment and fall protection.

