

SAFETY ALERT

UK SA10/2021 – 27.07.21

Display Until
31.08.2021



LOST TIME INJURY – Driver Fractures Hip Whilst Exiting Vehicle

DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT

A third party driver of a rigid tipper truck slipped and fell from the bottom access step whilst exiting the vehicle. The tipper was being used for the discharge of clinker vessels; the driver was changing vehicles after being advised that he had a puncture. Whilst descending from the cab, the driver slipped off the bottom step and fell from a height of 500mm, resulting in a fractured hip.

Weather conditions were dry and the incident occurred in daylight hours.

KEY FINDINGS

- The driver was part of a two vehicle operation working a 12 hour day shift, transporting clinker from Eco Hopper to silo reception.
- Ship discharge had been delayed by 5 hours due to a Port Authority crane breakdown.
- The driver's truck was found to have a puncture once discharge had commenced.
- No documented pre-start check had been completed on the vehicle. This may have identified the puncture, depending on when the puncture occurred (pre or post vehicle start-up).
- The driver maintains he had 3 points of contact when exiting his truck.
- The driver's footwear was of the correct specification, in good condition, and correctly laced.
- His left foot slipped off the corner of the bottom access step, causing him to lose his grip and fall to the floor.
- The vehicle design does not have an 'enclosed step', and this increases the likelihood of incorrect foot placement on the edge of the step where there is reduced grip.

KEY REVIEW POINTS

- Reinforce the need for documented vehicle pre-start checks.
- Ensure steps are maintained in good condition and free from damage
- Check all vehicles for 'enclosed' access step design. Avoid 'open step design' - see below.
- Follow the ERIC-P principles to eliminate tasks where possible – this activity will be eliminated with the completion of a CAPEX project that was already in execution stage at the time of the incident.



Open sides to step

Open step design

Access step not 'enclosed' at sides, increasing risk of incorrect foot placement on the edge of the step where there is reduced grip.



Enclosed step design

Enclosed access steps, preventing placement of foot on the sides of the step.



Safety Checks

Carry out your vehicle checks before driving and make sure your load is stable and secure.

Get a grip



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

Incident/Hazard alerts



Report all incidents/hazards immediately.



STOP THINK ACT

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TRUCKMIXER DRIVER INJURES FINGER ON CUSTOMER SITE

A truckmixer Driver arrived at a customer site, reversing as directed toward the discharge point. The site narrowed and the Driver needed to retract his offside mirror. As the Driver was doing so, from his cab, he caught his right middle finger on the site security fencing, resulting in a laceration that had to be closed with glue and steri-strips in hospital.



KEY FINDINGS

- The customer had requested a minimix truck; however this was not communicated to the batching plant and the order was sent on an 8m³ truckmixer.
- There are very few Near Miss / Hazard Alerts reported for customer sites.

HOW COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED?

- Follow MYSPACE principles on site
- Ensure details of any constraints or hazards on customer sites are communicated
- Take 5 - Look left, right, up & down

KEY REVIEW POINTS

- Encourage reporting of Near Misses / Hazards
- Understand requirements of remote ordering procedures and ensure delivery details are communicated
- Follow ordering procedures
- Liaise with customers regarding any site restrictions, and communicate these to relevant persons

Look after yourself and each other



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

Safe Systems



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

Incident/Hazard alerts



Report all incidents/hazards immediately.



Site Safety

Check for hazards when on site, be highly visible and assess the risks before unloading.



STOP THINK ACT