



Work Safety Alert Trapped underneath a Vibratory Compactor

1. **Date of Accident :** November 2022
2. **Place of Accident :** A machinery depot
3. **Summary :**

While a mechanic was repairing a vibratory compactor, the compactor suddenly moved backward and ran over him. He sustained multiple bodily injuries and passed away on the same day.

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

To ensure the safety and health of workers/ employees engaged in inspection, maintenance or repair work of a vibratory compactor, the owner of the plant/ contractor/ employer should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the work involved, taking into account the nature of work to be carried out, the working environment and the plant involved;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the plant inspection, maintenance or repair work with due regard to the results of risk assessments, and the instructions and specifications prescribed by the manufacturer of the plant;
- ensuring that the plant under inspection, maintenance or repair is parked on level ground, with the parking brake firmly applied and blocked by suitable wedges, where appropriate;
- ensuring the ignition key of the plant has been removed and handed to designated personnel for safe custody after parking;
- ensuring that every lever, handle or similar device for controlling the



movement of the plant is suitably constructed and positioned to avoid accidental actuation and clearly marked to indicate its purpose and mode of operation, and prohibiting unauthorised access to these control devices when work is being carried out at or near the plant;

- ensuring that inspection, maintenance or repair work is carried out by persons who are competent by virtue of training and practical experience, and has an adequate knowledge of the plant involved;
- providing the workers/ employees involved with the necessary safety information, instruction and training to ensure that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and safety measures for the work; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure the above 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

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.

¹ Click to view document