

A brief overview of incidents and proposed legislative changes.

- Worker injured by overhead travelling crane.
- Fatal fall from height while working on air conditioning system.
- Electrical worker loses licence for 10 years.
- Workers injured in trench collapse.
- Securely restrain excavator buckets and attachments before transportation.
- South Australia Proposed Legislative Change – Scissor Lift Control Amendment Bill 2019.

Design Safety Solutions Pty Ltd can provide support to your business through services including: -

- Facilitating Safety in Design workshops and construction lifecycle support;
- WHS system development and review;
- OHS, Quality and Environmental system assurance auditing;
- Site safety supervision and provision of daily Site Safety Supervision reporting;
- Contractor pre-appointment verification;
- SWMS Review;
- Site Safety Plan Development; and
- Site inspections – reports focusing on client expectations.



<https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au>

Worker injured by overhead travelling crane

In June 2019, a crane operator was injured when an overhead travelling crane (also commonly known as a bridge crane) fell to the ground. Early enquiries indicate the anchoring system used to support the rails the crane travels along failed, resulting in the crane falling. Investigations are continuing.

Preventing a similar incident

Bridge cranes comprise of a bridge beam usually mounted to a pair of elevated runway beams or girders. The bridge beam can travel along the overhead runway and is fitted with one or more hoists (lifting component of the crane) that travel along the bridge beam. Bridge cranes can be operated from within a cabin mounted on the crane or remotely from the ground, for example by a hard-wired pendant or radio control. (Source: Safe Work Australia).

[More Information click here.](#)

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Fatal fall from height while working on air conditioning system

In August, a man died after falling approximately 6 metres (m) while working on an air conditioning system at a civic centre. It's believed he may have fallen from a ladder. Investigations are continuing.

Preventing a similar incident

Falls are a major cause of death and serious injury at workplaces. The risk of falling is common in construction but may also occur during many other work activities. Work involving ladders often leads to falls because of ladder stability, moving on or off the ladder, and the type of work itself.

The risk of serious injury from a fall is largely dependent on the height but also the surface below (e.g. working on a roof near an unprotected edge or performing installation work from a ladder). Although a risk management approach must be used to manage the risks of falls from heights, there are several regulatory provisions that persons conducting a business or undertaking must comply with in different workplaces.

[More Information click here.](#)

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Electrical worker loses licence for 10 years

The Electrical Licensing Committee disqualified a negligent electrical contractor from holding an electrical work licence for a period of 10 years. The electrical sole trader was previously directed by the committee to undergo an assessment of his competency under section 64c of the Electrical Safety Act 2002 and was deemed competent in June 2019. After the assessment, the committee received new referrals in July 2019 of electrical work performed in multiple locations that had multiple serious defects, breaches against AS/NZ3000 and exposed live terminals, placing people and property at serious risk from electric shock.

[More Information click here.](#)





<https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au>

Workers injured in trench collapse

In August 2019, two workers were injured after a trench collapse at a construction site. Early enquiries indicate the two workers were installing footings in a trench next to a recently completed storm water pipeline. For reasons unknown, the earth around the pipeline collapsed during the trench work. Investigations are continuing.

Preventing a similar incident

Excavation work usually involves the removal of soil or rock from a site to form an open face, hole or cavity using tools, machinery or explosives. Specific excavation hazards include:

-  ground collapse involving the fall or dislodgement of earth or rock
-  previous disturbance of the ground including previous excavations
-  instability of adjoining structures caused by the excavation
-  underground essential services – include ing gas, water, sewerage, telecommunications, electricity, chemicals and fuel or refrigerant in pipes or lines.

[More Information click here.](#)

<https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/>

Securely restrain excavator buckets and attachments before transportation

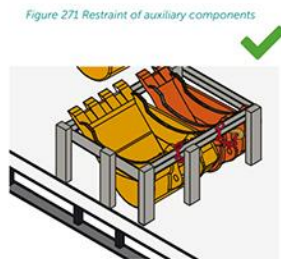
The purpose of this Safety Alert is to highlight common industry practice of transporting excavator attachments in a large excavator bucket, and the risk associated with the attachments dislodging and causing serious injury if not securely restrained.

Background

In April 2019, a 30-year-old worker was fatally injured while loading an excavator onto a float in the yard of a hire company. At the time of the incident, the excavator was fitted with a batter bucket carrying two smaller buckets and a single tine ripper. The attachments were not secured before the excavator was maneuvered onto the float for transportation.

During final positioning of the excavator onto the float, one of the smaller buckets dislodged from the batter bucket and struck the worker who had come onto the float deck while the operator was still positioning the excavator.

✓ Restrain auxiliary components (buckets, blades, rippers, etc.) on the deck using containment and/or tie-down/direct restraint – *Figure 271*.



VEHICLES AND MOBILE EQUIPMENT

(From NTWorkSafe Safety Alert)

[More Information click here.](#)

Legislative Change – Proposed – South Australia

While this is a Bill and not yet in the Act, the amendment may occur to the SA WHS Act.

[Work Health and Safety \(Scissor Lift Control\) Amendment Bill 2019](#)

This Bill proposes to amend the Act imposes additional requirements such as:

- 🔍 a safety observer who is competent to take all necessary steps in the event of an emergency;
- 🔍 each scissor lift in use at the workplace is of the same make and model, and has the same operating controls; and
- 🔍 the department will instigate a review of best practice engineering solutions and provide a report.

[More Information \(The Bill\) click here](#)

**Stay safe, look after
your workmates.**