

# Equipment on concrete agitator trucks

This alert highlights the risk of injury when storing equipment beneath the rotating mixer drum of concrete agitator trucks.

December 2016

## Background

Concrete agitator trucks are used to deliver ready mix concrete from concrete batching plants to construction sites for use. In a recent incident an employee required surgery when their arm became caught between the mixer drum and chassis rails of a concrete agitator truck.

The incident occurred when the employee was accessing equipment stored beneath the mixer drum. The rotating mixer drum caused the employee's arm to become trapped against the chassis rails resulting in a friction burn type injury.

## Recommended controls

An employer must ensure that any risk associated with plant is eliminated so far as is reasonably practicable, if it is not reasonably practicable to eliminate the risk, it must be reduced so far as is reasonably practicable.

The risk of injury associated with storing equipment on concrete agitator trucks must be controlled so far as is reasonably practical, this includes:

- ensuring the gap between the rotating mixer drum and chassis is sufficient so that hands and arms cannot become trapped (this is recommend before purchasing, leasing, or fitting mixer drums to such trucks)
- reducing the gap between the rotating mixer drum and chassis by installing suitable barriers (for example, barriers made of stiff rubber connected to the chassis)
- providing designated areas or devices to securely store equipment on the truck away from the rotating mixer drum
- using signage to indicate areas where equipment should not be stored on the truck
- conducting regular inspections to ensure that equipment is stored correctly.

Employers must provide such information, instruction, training or supervision to employees to enable those persons to perform their work in a way that is safe and without risks to health, this includes training on the safe storage of equipment on trucks.

## Further Information

*Code of practice – (No 19) – plant*

*Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*

*Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007*

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