

# SAFETY ALERT



Issued by: Tom Fallon

Approved by: Brian Gillon

Engineering No: 06/2015

## Workers foot trapped under paving machine

**Date:** 17/07/2015

**Location:** Kwinana Freeway

**Risk Category:** Plant

### Summary of Incident

On 22/06/2015 a worker involved in road paving activities, commenced moving asphalt from the front/top lip of the paving machine hopper down into the feeder conveyor at the bottom of the hopper using a shovel. The worker had positioned himself in-front of the moving paving machine and was walking backwards using the forward movement of the paver to assist in moving the asphalt. As the machine approached the tie-in point (approximately 30mm step up) the workers right foot became jammed between the tie-in point and the bottom of the hopper. The hopper crushed the workers' boot steel toe cap and caused 2 x lacerations and fractures to the big, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> toes. At the time of the incident the operator of the paving machine was unaware that personnel were working at the front of the hopper. There was sufficient material in the hopper to finish the paving run without the need to push material onto the feeder conveyor.



### Identified causes and contributing factors

- SWMS for paving were ambiguous & did not mention displacing material in hopper as machine is moving.
- Contractor risk register was poor & did not control risks.
- Similar incidents of personnel working in front of moving paving machine have been observed at the site by the contractor supervision and other supervision on site, but no preventative actions were taken.

### Lessons learnt

- All mobile plant must be treated with respect.
- SWMS & Risk Register entries must be clear.
- Supervision must document non-compliance to procedures & ensure preventative actions are implemented.

### Corrective Actions

#### All projects must implement the following corrective actions:

- Where personnel are required to access the front of a paving machine this is only to occur after the machine is stationary, the handbrake has been applied & permission has been received by the paving machine operator & the truck controller. (To be implemented by 20/08/15).
- Only asphalt paving machines which are fitted with a mechanical means of clearing hopper are to be used on sites. (To be implemented by 15/11/15).
- Observation/inspection schedule for the site must include all activities involving mobile plant.
- All Leaders must have an understanding that if they see an act which is inconsistent with our procedures, risk registers and SWMS, they are expected to stop the job and commence an incident investigation.

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This is to verify that this Safety Alert has been received and the following steps taken to identify and reduce the risk of a similar occurrence on this project.	Tick ✓	
	Yes	No
1. Is this incident relevant to your site/project?		
2. Is there a risk of a similar incident or similar circumstances occurring?		
If the answers to the above are <b>NO</b> , then sign bottom of the sheet and forward a copy to the project Health and Safety representative.		
If the answers to the above are <b>YES</b> , complete questions 3 to 5 before signing and forwarding a copy to the project Health and Safety representative.		
3. Have the contents of the Safety Alert been at a toolbox talk with employees and subcontractors?		
4. Has a copy of the Safety Alert been placed on notice boards?		
5. Has the project risk register/SWMS been reviewed and updated?		
6. Has a copy of this Alert been sent out to relevant Subcontractors?		
7. Has the Regional Safety Manager been advised of completion?		

**Comments**

Verified by Project Manager (please print name)	Signed	Date

Once completed, a copy of this notification sheet is to be forwarded to the project Health and Safety representative and an observation entered in Enablon with this sign-off sheet scanned and attached.

The original must be filed on site along with all documentation supporting the action that was taken (this may be required for future auditing purposes).