26/11/2019

Telehandler fatality

12 November 2019

Incident overview

A 24-year-old man was killed near Gundagai after being hit by the boom of a telehandler, while riding outside of the cabin.

The investigation

- SafeWork NSW inspectors responded to the incident.
- SafeWork NSW commenced an investigation to determine the cause and circumstances of the incident.
Safety Information

Businesses are reminded of their duty to identify hazards and manage risks to health and safety in accordance with the provisions of the [Work Health and Safety Act 2011](https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au) and [Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017](https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au).

Consider ‘reasonably practicable’ control measures to manage the risks associated with working on, or near, mobile plant. Control measures include:

- not carrying passengers unless the plant is equipped to do so
- wearing a seatbelt
- putting exclusion zones around the plant when it’s operating
- having safe systems of work for the operation of the plant item
- training workers in the use of the plant item
- maintaining the plant according to manufacturer’s recommendations
- doing appropriate inspections – for cranes, follow AS2550.

Further information

- [Working with or around mobile plant safety alert](https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au)
- [Code of practice – Moving plant on construction sites](https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au)
- [Plant: Your health and safety guide](https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au) – Worksafe Victoria

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. No conclusions should be drawn from the information in this publication about the cause of the incident or the culpability of any party.