

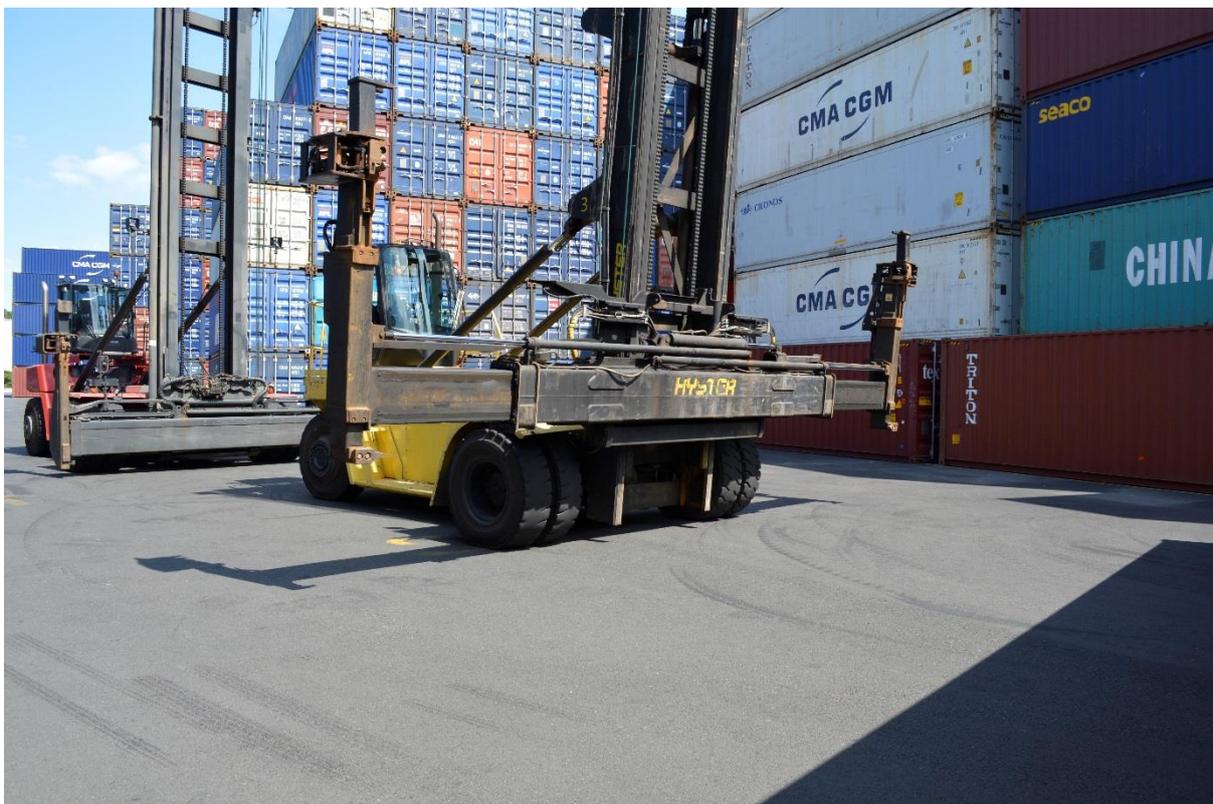
14/10/2019

Shipping Container Incident

25 September 2019

Incident overview

A 67-year-old man suffered fatal injuries when crushed between containers at Port Botany. He was working near a forklift carrying a 12-metre long shipping container, when the container hit a stationary container, causing it to slide and trap the man between it and a nearby stack of containers.



Empty Container Handler similar to the one involved in the incident

The investigation

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



Incident Information Release

SAFework NSW

14/10/2019

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](#) and [Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017](#).

Consider 'reasonably practicable' control measures to manage the risk of lifting and transporting shipping containers.

Make sure:

- the site has adequate space and light to operate plant safely around the containers
- consider the environmental conditions – heat, cold, rain, wind, ventilation – don't hinder safety
- exclusion zones are established and maintained around containers and mobile plant to protect workers from falling objects and moving plant, as set out in your Traffic Management Plan
- plant and equipment is fit for purpose, inspected and properly maintained in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations
- operators are competent and hold the relevant High Risk Work Licence for the work activities undertaken, such as the operation of reach stackers, forklifts and cranes

Further information

You can also refer to the following guidance materials:

- [AS 3711.10 - Freight Containers – Handling and storing standards](#)
- [Workplace Traffic Management – general guide](#)
- [Model Code of Practice: How to manage work health and safety risks](#)
- [SafeWork NSW Code of practice – Managing the risks of plant in the workplace](#)