

No: IGS 234

Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

Using excavators and mobile plant

This bulletin is for the attention of staff responsible for the use and supervision of mobile plant.

There have been some recent incidents where items of mobile plant have overturned, in particular, tracked excavators and telehandlers. In these instances, there were no reported injuries although the potential for severe injury or indeed fatality was high as was evident with an overturned MEWP at Stewarton Viaduct. Contributory factors associated with overturning can include - working on unstable ground, lifting unsecured loads and banksmen not present during lifting. These practices are unacceptable and must stop.



Action-

All staff involved with the planning of the works are to make sure that-

- there is specific reference to overturning in the risk assessment and that suitable controls are included in the Works Package Plan (WPP), or referenced in specific Risk Control Sheets; and
- when lifting is planned, that an approved lift plan is in place.

All staff involved with the supervision of the machines must be briefed on these arrangements and confirm that these risks are included in the task briefing.

- Task briefings must identify the risk of overturning and the operatives briefed on the control measures.
- Operatives must work in accordance with the brief

All plant operatives are to receive a task briefing, sign the briefing sheet to confirm their understanding and not to deviate from the safe system of operating the machine.