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Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Accident involving a lorry mounted crane fitted with a brick-grab attachment

For the attention of: Infrastructure Projects, Network Rail Staff and Principal Contractors

Background:

On 2 September 2014 a serious accident occurred at Cardiff Central Station during the delivery of bulk materials in 1 tonne bags. The bags were delivered and off-loaded using a lorry mounted crane with a brick grab attachment fitted with hooks for delivering bagged materials.

During the operation an employee of one of our contractors acting as the slinger was caught between the arms of the brick grab and suffered serious injuries.



Immediate action required by all persons affected:

Investigations into the causes of this event are on-going. In the meantime take the time to discuss the following issue with your teams:

- Do you always follow the lifesaving rule “Never enter the agreed exclusion zone, unless directed to by the person in charge”?
- Are you aware that lorry mounted cranes **MUST** be isolated where loads need to be attached / detached manually? Where a remote control device is used this **MUST** be isolated at all times when it is not in use, when attaching and detaching loads or when anyone, including the operator, is working in the vicinity of any loading attachments.
- Do you always ensure that for this type of operation the operator and any other staff working in the delivery / collection area set up an exclusion zone?
- Do you always agree the communication protocol between all parties that indicates that the loading equipment is isolated and it is safe to approach the load and any loading attachments?
- Do you need to change the way you work to keep yourself and others safe?



Never enter the agreed exclusion zone, unless directed to by the person in charge.