

HEALTH & SAFETY ALERT

Telehandler Sensors

During a recent routine inspection on a telehandler, a service engineer found a coin taped onto the inhibitor which controls the jack legs.

The purpose of this inhibitor is to restrict the extension of the boom when the jack legs are in the raised position and conversely the operation of the jack legs when the boom is extended. When the boom is extended the sensor is uncovered and the operation of the jacks is disabled.



By covering the inhibitor switch, the sensor tells the controls that the boom is closed, therefore the jack legs can be operated even if the boom is at full extension and/or at full height.

This inhibitor is located in different positions dependent upon the size of the telehandler in use. Some inhibitors are fitted at the rear of the machine, covered by a locked door and on the larger telehandlers it is located on the boom of the machine (as shown above).

The consequences of covering the sensor would cause the machine to believe the jack legs are fully deployed and thus allowing the machine to operate at maximum load, height and reach. Therefore, putting the machine in this position, without its jack legs deployed, would put the machine in an unsafe and unstable operating mode, which could lead to the possibility of the machine tipping over.

SUBJECT: Tracked Excavator Overturned

DATE: 7th October 2013

A recent Industry safety bulletin has been circulated following the overturning of a tracked excavator during a routine task, when the operator lost control after a loose bottle in the cab caused the control pedals to be jammed in an active position (this **WAS NOT** on a xxx site). Fortunately nobody was injured and the operator was protected by wearing his seatbelt and the Rollover Protective cab, both of which were a fundamental importance to his safety.



Bottle wedged under travel control pedal which resulted in loss of control of the excavator



There are three key lessons to be learnt from this event and they relate to operators and drivers of all types of vehicles & equipment, whether plant, cranes, LGVs, vans or cars:

- Seat belts save lives – anything other than 100% compliance in wearing is unacceptable.
- All drivers or operators must be extremely vigilant in ensuring loose objects are stored in a way that they could not interfere with control pedals or levels.
- Supervisors and Managers have an important role to play in the maintenance of discipline and must not accept anything other than the highest standards and disciplinary action should be taken against operators who do not meet these requirements.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact a member of the SHE Department.



Occupational Health

Stewart Morrison, Ogilvie Group/ SHBHSF Chair



Legal Requirements

Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974

Employers to ensure health and safety of employees and others who may be affected by their work activities

Management of H&S Regulations 1999

Risk assessment to identify measures needed to comply with H&S requirements and control risk.

Reg 20: employees provided with such health surveillance as is appropriate having regard to the risks to their health and safety which are identified by the assessment.



CONIAC Health Risks Working Group - Position Statement

- 1. Statistics indicate a construction worker is 100 times more likely to die from disease caused or made worse by their work as they are from a fatal accident.**
- 2. Managing workplace health helps employers to retain experience and skilled workers and maintains productive employment.**
- 3. Workplace ill health is preventable – it is possible and practical to carry out construction work without causing ill health.**
- 4. Everyone involved in construction has a responsibility in managing risks to health, and all parties must take ownership of their part of the process.**
- 5. Planning and working collaboratively will reduce risk throughout the supply chain at all stages of the process.**
- 6. Managing health risks is no different to managing safety risks.**
- 7. Checking workers health is not a substitute for managing and controlling health risks. Monitoring should not be given priority over managing, or confused with it.**
- 8. Helping workers tackle other "lifestyle "risks to their health is not a substitute for managing health risks.**



Safety Critical Tasks/Workers

Task Definition – Office of Rail Regulation

“Driving, dispatching or any activity which is capable of controlling or affecting the movement of that vehicle”

“Signalling, and signalling operations.....and any other activity which is capable of controlling or affecting the movement of that vehicle”

“Installation of components other thanthose subject to check by safety critical controller”


“Maintenance , other than.....those subject to check by safety critical worker/ controller”

“Checking that the vehicle is working properly and is correctly loaded”

Worker Definition — Constructing Better Health

“Where ill health of an individual may compromise their ability to undertake a task defined as safety critical, thereby posing a significant risk to the health and safety of others”

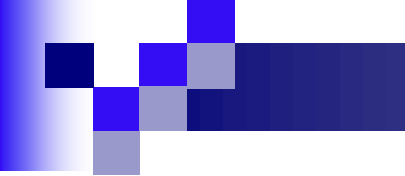
Constructing Better Health – Health Assessment Matrix

HEALTH ASSESSMENT MATRIX		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	
		Pre-Placement Questionnaire	Pre-Placement Health Assessment / Medical	Safety Critical Workers - Fitness For Work Assessments	Statutory Medicals (Appointed Doctor)	Musculoskeletal Questionnaire/Assessment	Skin health Assessment	Respiratory Surveillance	Audiometry and questionnaire	HAVS Assessment tiers 1-5	Blood Pressure	Urinalysis	Visual Acuity & Fields	Mid Range Acuity (DSE users)	Colour Vision	Biological Monitoring	Workplace Stress Assessment	Drug and Alcohol Screening (if)	General Health/Lifestyle	
SECTION 1: JOB ROLE																				
ADMINISTRATORS (site)																				
ASBESTOS LICENSED WORKERS	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠		⚠			⚠	⚠		
BRICK LAYERS	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
CARPENTERS / JOINERS / SHOP FITTERS	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
CONSTRUCTION SITE OPERATIVE - GENERAL	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
CONSTRUCTION SITE OPERATIVE - SPECIALIST (HSE ASSESSMENT)	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
DEMOLITION OPERATIVE	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
ELECTRICIANS - FITTERS / ENGINEERS	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠					⚠					
FORM WORKER	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
GLAZIER / GLASS FITTER / WINDOW FABRICATORS	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
LGV DRIVER	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠		
PAINTERS / DECORATORS	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
PIILING OPERATIVE	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
PIPE FITTER	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
PLANT OPERATOR - GENERAL	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠		
PLANT OPERATOR - CRANE DRIVER	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠		
IT OPERATORS - MOBILE MACHINE DRIVERS	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠		
PLASTERERS/DRY LINERS	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
PLUMBERS / GAS / HEATING / VENTILATION ENGINEERS	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
RAIL TRACKSIDE	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠		
ROAD CONSTRUCTION - ASPHALTER/ PAVER	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠							
ROADSIDE (HIGH SPEED)	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠		
ROOFERS - SLATERS / THATCHERS / TLERS	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠							
SCAFFOLDERS/RIGGERS	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠							
SITE FOREMAN/SUPERVISOR	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠							⚠	⚠		
SITE MANAGER	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠							⚠	⚠		
STEEL ERECTORS STRUCTURAL/ FABRICATOR	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠		
STEEPLEJACK	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠							
STONEMASONS	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
TILERS / TILE FIXER / FLOOR TILER	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠										
TUNNEL WORKERS - (CONFINED SPACE/BApparatus)	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠				⚠	⚠		
WELDER	⚠					⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠			⚠							
SECTION 2: HAZARDS TABLE																				
ASBESTOS (not licensed)	⚠	⚠						⚠												
CHEMICAL- RESPIRATORY (sensitive)	⚠	⚠					⚠	⚠									⚠			
CHEMICAL- SKIN (sensitive)	⚠	⚠					⚠	⚠												
CONFINED SPACE	⚠	⚠	⚠																	
BIOLOGICAL	⚠	⚠															⚠			
IONISING RADIATION	⚠	⚠			⚠												⚠			
WORKING AT HEIGHT	⚠	⚠			⚠												⚠			
LONE WORKING	⚠	⚠																		
MANUAL HANDLING	⚠	⚠			⚠															
NOISE	⚠	⚠							⚠											
NIGHT WORK	⚠	⚠																		
SILICA	⚠	⚠						⚠												
VIBRATION	⚠	⚠								⚠										
WORKING AT HEIGHT (control measures not practicable)	⚠	⚠	⚠																	
KEY TO CODING:		⚠	HEALTH SURVEILLANCE (Dependant on risks to which worker is exposed - risk assessment required)																	
		⚠	HEALTH MONITORING (BEST PRACTICE) (Strongly recommended - risk assessment required)																	
			NOT LEGALLY REQUIRED - GOOD BUSINESS SENSE																	
		⚠	SAFETY CRITICAL - FITNESS FOR WORK HEALTH ASSESSMENT																	



Jobs Highlighted as - Safety Critical Workers/ Fitness for Work Assessment

- Asbestos Licensed Workers
- LGV Driver
- **Plant Operator – General**
- **Plant Operator – Crane Driver**
- **Plant Operator – Mobile Machine Drivers**
- Rail Tracksides
- Roadside (High Speed)
- Tunnel Workers



STRATEGIC FORUM
FOR CONSTRUCTION

PLANT SAFETY GROUP

GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE

Medical Fitness to Operate Construction Plant

Strategic Forum for Construction
Good Practice Guide



SAFETY PUBLICATION SERIES
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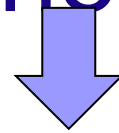


Plant Safety Group – Medical Fitness to Operate Construction Plant

CPA Quotes

“Guidance is intended to provide clarity on the medical fitness assessment process and outlines the steps that should be taken by employers to ensure that the plant operators have an appropriate level of fitness for the job”

“One of the purposes of medical assessments for equipment operators is to be able to demonstrate to customers renting operated plant, that the operators they are effectively hiring, are medically fit to undertake the tasks that they are asked to do”



Statement of fitness confirming employee has been assessed by OHP and found to be medically fit to operate the specific item of plant?



Plant Safety Group – Medical Fitness to Operate Construction Plant (Summary)

- Job Analysis/ Specific requirements for that item of plant**
- Assessment Requirements and Standards (7 Core Elements)**
 - 1. Musculo – skeletal health (mobility, co-ordination, chronic pain)**
 - 2. Cardio- vascular (blood pressure)**
 - 3. Nervous system (vertigo, balance, muscular weakness)**
 - 4. Visual Acuity (both eyes, colour perception)**
 - 5. Hearing (evidence of adequate, limited hearing loss)**
 - 6. General Health (diabetes, asthma etc./ controlled)**
 - 7. Psychological/ Mental Health (behaviour, stress, impairment)**

Note: Optional Alcohol/ Drugs screening.



Plant Safety Group – Medical Fitness to Operate Construction Plant (Summary)

- Consultation with employees**
- Self declaration for new plant operators**
- Occupational health questionnaire**
- Consent to obtain medical reports**
- Employers duties for collection/ use of health information**
- Minimum competency standards for Occupational Health Professional/ Provision**



Summary/ Questions