

## **SAFETY CIRCULAR No. 107**

**SUBJECT:** Tracked Excavator Overturned

**DATE:** 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013

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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 xxxx 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.

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