

SAFETY ALERT

Overtuned 6t Dumper

What happened?

A 6 tonne forward tipping dumper over-turned on site when it left the hardstanding area entering into a 500mm reduced level area. At the time of the incident, the dumper was being utilised to transport material over short distances, as part of a fill and compact operation.

The Roll Over Protection Structure (ROPS) and seatbelt prevented the operator from sustaining any injury.

Why did this happen?

- The dumper encroached too close to the road edge whilst transporting material
- The operator stated that on approach to the tipping point the dumper brake failed to engage, this resulted in the dumper entering the reduced level area, causing it to overturn
- Prior to the accident, the dumper was being loaded with recycled concrete materials; it is believed that this material may have caused the failure of the braking mechanism, by becoming lodged underneath.

What do we need to do:

- Re-iterate the importance of continuing checks of safety critical components during operation
- Re-iterate to all plant operators the importance of ensuring debris does not build up around any operating pedals
- A reminder to all that Highways England 'Raising the Bar' No.1 stipulates a requirement for dynamic brake efficiency testing to be conducted every 6 months - see below link.
- Reinforce importance of wearing seat belts - see below video link from another Costain contract.



Red Arrow – pointing to small stones in/around the brake pedal.

Further guidance:

Highways England Plant Standards:

[Raising the Bar No.1- Plant and Equipment](#)

Costain 'Belt Up' Video:

<https://icosnet.costain.com/bc/bc.cgi/d1750116153/Heysham%20Dumper%20lessons%20learnt.mpeg>