

Lorry loader crane incidents

There have been a number of incidents on the strategic road network involving lorry loader cranes, where the boom had not been properly stowed and struck overhead structures.

On the 9th November 2017 at an M6 slip road, a lorry loader struck a footbridge, causing it to collapse.



On the 8th November 2017 at J13-14 of the M60, a lorry loader was moving forward with the boom extended. The crane impacted an unidentified gantry which received superficial damage and causing significant damage to the loader.

On the 13th September 2017 on the M1, a lorry loader boom collapsed as it was being stowed for travel. The loader had been used with a fly-jib accessory which was not properly adjusted, resulting in damage to the master cylinder and loss of hydraulic pressure.

On the 9th December 2016 at the M62/M606 junction, a lorry loader struck an overhead bridge. The audible alarm was activated as the crane was at a height above the cab. The driver admitted to ignoring the alarm.

Supply chain partners are expected to manage the use **and** transport of lorry loader cranes safely and where possible meet 'Raising the Bar' standards.

- [Plant and Equipment - Raising the bar 1](#)
- [Overhead structure and services protection - Raising the bar 7](#)
- [Loading and Unloading Vehicles - Raising the bar 25](#)

Safe systems of work can also be developed using guidance from the Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA) - [The Management of Lifting Operations with Lorry Loaders](#).

Lessons Learnt:

Operators

- Should be familiar with the use of the specific equipment and accessories
- Should know the maximum load height
- Workforce report any unidentified overhead structures

Operation

- The safe system of work should clearly identify who is in control of the operation
- The safe system of work should identify clearance heights of all structures on site and on transport routes

Equipment

- All plant coming onto site should be inspected by a competent person to ensure it meets the legal requirements and any project standards
- All plant / vehicles should remain on site to be inspected by a competent person after any incident / undesirable circumstance
- Vehicle heights are displayed in the cab

For further information please contact NH&ST@highwaysengland.co.uk