highways england

INFORMATION

Safety Alert

Overturned Crawler Crane Incident at M4 SMP

11 November 2019

Background information

On the 10th October at the M4 SMP project a 45 tonne telescopic crawler crane working on bridge works adjacent to junction 7 overturned as it was tracking towards the top of a ramp to decent to road level.

The operator was manoeuvring around a scaffold structure, felt sideways movement in the crane, tried to correct it, however it slid on the batter and overturned. No personnel were in the vicinity of the falling crane and no injuries were sustained by any party.

Lessons learnt/actions

Lessons learned are to be shared once the investigation has concluded, however the following recommended points should be reviewed at all locations where crawler cranes are in use:-

- Ensure crane equipment is only operated by qualified workers
- Ensure equipment is operated in line with the manufacturers guidance.
- Ensure suitable bunds or stop blocks are in place to prevent overrun/slippage on elevations
- Ensure ground within working areas is firm
- Inspect both the equipment and the load before operation of lifting equipment.
- Ensure ground workers are clear of the crane operation area and are nowhere beneath the load while the equipment is being operated.

If you have any queries about this safety alert information announcement or any other safety announcement then please contact **Thomas.Merry@highwaysengland.co.uk**

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home safe and well