

SAF/10/024

14 December 2010

# Safety Alert

## Incident Involving Overturned Telehandler

An incident occurred on one of our projects when a telehandler rough terrain forklift overturned. The telehandler was travelling up an access ramp carrying a load slung from its forks when its right rear tyre blew-out resulting in the telehandler overturning. The operator was able to exit the cab safely.



### Key Issues

The investigation highlighted the following key issues :

1. The sub-contractor using the telehandler had reported a 'suspected puncture' to the same tyre on the morning of the incident but continued to use it for two more hours up to the time of the incident.
2. The ground conditions were not suitable for the safe use of a telehandler – a crane should have been used instead. The risk assessment was too generic and didn't identify the mechanism for identifying which type of lifting equipment would be used for each application.
3. The load being carried was slung off the fork tynes instead of using a proprietary lifting frame.



### Actions Required

1. Review all risk assessments where telehandlers are used to ensure that gradients, cross falls and likely ground conditions have been assessed.
2. Ensure only certified lifting attachments are used to carry loads. Loads should not be slung from the tynes of a fork unless this is the approved method of lifting.
3. Do not use defective or suspected defective plant until assessed by a competent person.

Response required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BMS will be amended	<input type="checkbox"/>
For information only	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 SSRA Director

Display Until: 14th January 2011