

# CFMEU SAFETY ALERT

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## MAN AND MATERIAL AUTOMATIC HOIST

**BACKGROUND:** A worker has received serious crushing injuries whilst carrying out work on an automatic man and material hoist. It appears that the hoist, on which he was working, engaged without warning crushing the worker who was attached to his safety harness and the roof of the car. The hoist car only came to a stop when the emergency break was applied by the hoist driver.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Suspend the operation of any automatically controlled man and material hoist that does not have a constant pressure push button control switch installed, which means a button that must be pushed for the hoist to operate. (AS 1418.7:1999 clause 4.5.13 & S19 (1) (a) OSH Act 1984)
- Review the safe work method statements for the installation, maintenance and climbing of the man and material hoist.
- Audit man and material hoists, focus on the following
  - 1) Has the builder determined that the operator is competent to operate the particular make and model of the hoist for this site
  - 2) Does the operator have a valid HM/HP HRWL?
  - 3) Does the builder have the following documentation available on site?
    - Manufactures operation manual, maintenance records, annual and major inspection reports.
    - Installation records and commissioning hand over certificate.
    - Engineering drawings for the foundation design, mast attachments and building ties.
  - 4) Is there a SWMS for operation?
  - 5) Can the operator describe the emergency decent procedure?
  - 6) Does the operator have a means of two-way communication; is the emergency contact list displayed?
  - 7) Is the risk of falls and falling objects adequately controlled at each landing?
  - 8) Is a daily pre-start log book available and is it up to date?
  - 9) Is the hoist provided with standard and emergency lighting?
  - 10) Are the operator's controls inside the car, are the instructions clearly illustrated?
  - 11) Are the emergency stops clearly marked and functioning as intended?
  - 12) Are all mechanical and electrical interlocks functioning correctly on all levels?
  - 13) Are final limit switches functioning correctly?
  - 14) Is emergency equipment available – fire extinguisher and first aid kit?

### FURTHER INFORMATION:

Manufacturer/supplier specifications

AS 1418.1 – 2002: Cranes, Hoists & Winches – General Requirements

AS 1418.7 – Cranes (including hoists and winches) – Builder's hoist and associated equipment

AS 2550.1 – 2002: Cranes, Hoists & Winches – Safe Use

AS 2550.7 – Cranes – safe use – Builders' hoists and associated equipment

REPORT UNSAFE WORK PRACTICES - CALL (08) 9228 6900 OR EMAIL [SAFETY@CFMEUWA.COM](mailto:SAFETY@CFMEUWA.COM)

**Stand up. Speak out. Come home.**