

7 July 2017

## NDA Australia convicted for safety breach

A steel pipe manufacturing business has been convicted and fined \$39,000 over an incident in which a worker's foot was run over by a forklift.

Industrial Magistrate Ardlie handed down the penalty today after NDA Australia Pty Ltd, trading as Pipetech, had earlier pleaded guilty to breaches of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2012* (SA).

Boilermaker Nicholas Andrew Kroepsch was acting as a spotter while helping a forklift operator to move a steel pipe at the company's Burton premises when he was injured on 27 October 2015.

Following investigation by SafeWork SA, NDA Australia Pty Ltd was charged with offences under the Act for failing to provide and maintain a safe system of work or a written safe work procedure for transporting pipes. SafeWork SA alleged that in failing to comply with its health and safety duty the company had exposed Mr Kroepsch to a risk of death or serious injury.

Magistrate Ardlie said that while the business had various safety systems in place prior to the accident, there were deficiencies in its procedures.

SafeWork SA Acting Executive Director Dini Soulio said the case highlighted the need for business operators to identify foreseeable risks to health and safety, and to implement and communicate control measures – including appropriate use of exclusion zones – to eliminate or minimise risks.

SafeWork SA offers a free service through which an advisor can visit the workplace to provide information and advice about work health and safety. To book an appointment visit [www.safework.sa.gov.au/freeadvice](http://www.safework.sa.gov.au/freeadvice) or call 1300 365 255.