

Hazard Alert

Truck tipping and tilting trays



Government
of South Australia
SafeWork SA

Summary of incident

There have been several incidents where workers have suffered fatal or serious injuries when carrying out inspections or undertaking maintenance / repair work underneath raised tipping or tilting trays on trucks and trailers.



Tipper safety bar

Action required

- Never carry out any work or inspection between a raised tipper and the vehicle chassis rails unless the raised tray is supported by a safety bar correctly applied or the tipper is supported by mechanically designed props or stands. Do not use wood to support the tipper.
- Ensure that a safe system of work is developed and implemented prior to the work being undertaken to minimise the need for a person to be working under a tipper tray.
- Ensure that limiter cables are protected from inadvertent activation by the use of shrouds or guarding.
- Ensure that controls for the raising and lowering of the tipper tray are clearly marked and protected from inadvertent operation.
- Never rely on the lifting equipment, cylinders or valves to support the tray in a raised position.
- Carry out regular inspection and maintenance of the hydraulics and mechanical parts. Ensure that any worn or damaged parts are repaired or replaced.

Possible causes

- This item of plant has the potential to suffer mechanical failure, slow leaks of the hydraulic lifting system, or inadvertent activation of the valve / control system which can cause the tipper tray to fall.

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