

WSHAlert

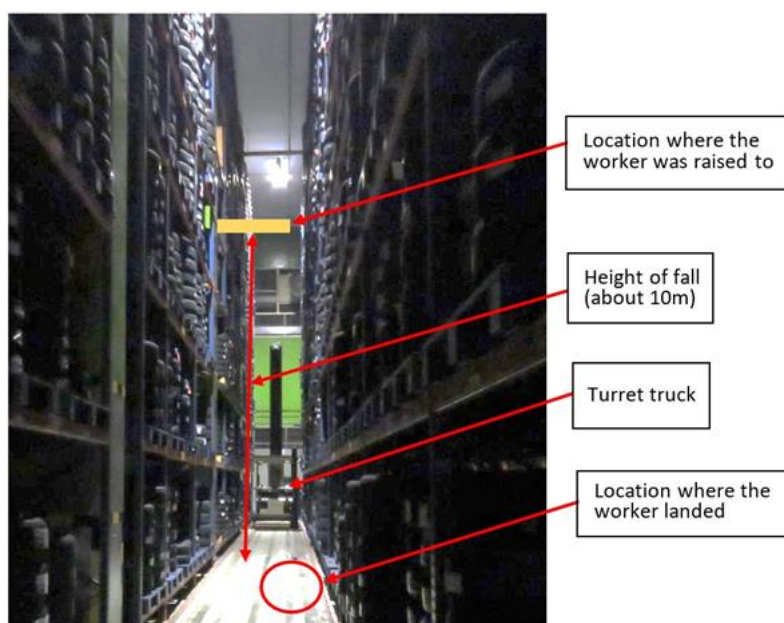
6 July 2021, Ref: 2122024

Worker fell from pallet lifted by turret truck

On 3 July 2021, a worker was tasked to install a beam on a storage rack about 10m from the ground in a warehouse. The worker was raised to that height as he stood on an empty pallet that sat on the forks of a turret truck (similar to a forklift) operated by a co-worker.

While being raised, the beam the worker was carrying accidentally struck a pallet placed on an upper storage tier, causing tyres from the upper tier to fall onto the worker and this resulted in him falling off the raised pallet.

The worker was sent to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.



Overview of the accident scene.

Recommendations

Such accidents can be prevented with the following measures:

- Never let workers stand on a pallet or forks of a forklift (or similar equipment, such as reach trucks and turret trucks).
- Use a suitable working platform (e.g. scissor lift, boom lift, tower scaffold) for safe installation when working at height.
- Ensure palletised loads comprised of loose items are properly stored in containers or stretch-wrapped/strapped to the pallet to prevent them from falling off the pallet.

- Operators must be trained, competent and authorised before operating any mechanical handling equipment.

Information on the accident is based on preliminary investigations by the Ministry of Manpower as at 5 July 2021. This may be subject to change as investigations are still on-going. Please also note that the recommendations provided here are not exhaustive and they are meant to enhance workplace safety and health so that a recurrence may be prevented. The information and recommendations provided are not to be construed as implying liability on any party nor should it be taken to encapsulate all the responsibilities and obligations under the law.

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