

## INCIDENT ALERT

**LOCATION:** Readymix or mortar plant

**ALERT STATUS:** Normal

**ACTIVITY:** Transport

**DATE ISSUED:** 20/07/06

**SUB ACTIVITY:** Mobile Plant

**INCIDENT No:** 00066

### TITLE

Collapsing steps on truckmixers result in second injury

### ACCIDENT / INCIDENT DETAILS

Safety Alert SA17/2005 (July <sup>TM</sup>05) detailed an incident where an employee jarred his back when the bottom access step on a MAN minimix truck broke away as he was climbing into the cab. In a second recent incident where an employee was climbing out of his cab, failure of an identical bottom access step arrangement on a similar MAN vehicle resulted in the driver falling to the ground and breaking his ankle.

Both incidents, on vehicles that were less than 2 years old, resulted from the fracture of a restraining clamp that allowed the whole step assembly to fall away

### ACCIDENT / INCIDENT IMAGES



Failed component that caused the incident

### LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

Following the initial accident contact was made with MAN and trials of an alternative fixing arrangement were being undertaken at the time of the second incident. Whilst work is ongoing with MAN to accelerate the trials and determine a suitable engineering solution in the short term, the following should be in place in the interim to avoid a recurrence:

- All steps on vehicles should be closely inspected for evidence of potential failure.
- Rigorous inspection and maintenance schemes should be operated to identify potential problems before they cause damage or injury.
- Any accident damage should be reported promptly. Defect Reporting and Near Miss/Hazard Alert systems should be used to highlight any damage/faults.
- Do not use damaged equipment where it presents a risk to health and safety, always ensure items are taken out of service and undergo proper repair.
- When climbing in or out of vehicles always remember to maintain 3 points of contact. Always exit lorry cabs backwards facing the cab, and do not be tempted to jump to the ground.

### LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS IMAGES