

Fatal 5 - Skip full of concrete falls during craning operation

WHAT HAPPENED

A recent incident at a concrete products site resulted in a skip full of concrete falling from height whilst it was being craned into position. Investigation revealed that this was due to the failure of a master link. The master link was within the 6 month statutory inspection period and no visual damage was seen prior to the link failing.

No person was injured as a result of the incident, but it does reinforce the need to ensure we have no persons operating close to or under any suspended loads.



LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

- Ensure a distance can be kept from all suspended loads, including when they are being moved.
- Never allow anyone to work close to or under a suspended load.
- Consider the use of remote pendants to allow the crane operator to stand clear.
- If the load requires a tag line, make sure the tag line is long enough to allow the operator to safely guide the load.
- Ensure all items for lifting are covered within the Statutory Inspection, including lifting devices that are permanently attached to machinery.
- Consider the age and use of the lifting equipment and make arrangements to replace as deemed necessary – manufacturers guidance and recommendations must be reviewed.

There are no mandatory or industry advisory guidance for replacement intervals of metallic lifting accessories, but we must adhere to guidance for non-metallic items such as straps and slings.

LOCATION: CONCRETE PRODUCTS PLANT
ACTIVITY: LIFTING
SUB ACTIVITY: NO SUB ACTIVITY AVAILABLE

ALERT STATUS: Normal
DATE ISSUED: 18/09/2025 11:34:58
INCIDENT No: 04928