

SASOL – LEARNING – GROVE OUTRIGGERS

Description of incident:

- Two electrical artisans were preparing to offload a motor from a light delivery vehicle using an 8-ton grove. One artisan was inside the grove while the injured was barricading the area between the grove and the light delivery vehicle. In the process of extending the outriggers, the injured person's left foot was pinched between the right rear outrigger and the flat concrete surface, resulting in an injury.

Consequences:

- Lost workday
- Open fracture to left second toe



Position of the injured's foot when injury occurred.

SASOL – LEARNING – GROVE OUTRIGGERS

Root causes:

- Individual or group failed to communicate:
 - Outriggers were extended without communication between the rigger and grove operator. The grove operator had no line of sight as to where the injured was standing, while he was inside the grove and extending the outriggers
- Risk management system, TRA inadequate / insufficient:
 - The task steps and risks around the grove were not stated and identified in the Task Risk Assessment and therefore not mitigated accordingly

SASOL – LEARNING – GROVE OUTRIGGERS

Contributing factors:


- Employee perceived haste
 - Employee perceived haste in completing the work. The plan was to hand over the grove to mechanical discipline immediately after the motor was installed. The grove is used by all the trades at the workshop
- Inadequate utilisation of work management system
 - The grove is not allocated as a resource that can be booked. This causes multiple use of the grove by departments on the same day with same resource, possibly contributing to perceived haste during task execution.
- Inadequate management system (Non casual)
 - The training tracking system alerted the line manager when the grove operator's license had already expired – it should have warned him before hand. There is also a misconception or misinterpretation regarding the 90 days provided 2 years after training has expired. The 90-day grace period has reference to the type of training that should be conducted (awareness or full course).

SASOL – LEARNING – GROVE OUTRIGGERS

Key learnings:

1. Ensure roles and responsibilities of a crane operator and rigger are clear when operating a mobile crane. The operator should ensure that the area is cleared before extending the outriggers and a spotter/rigger should direct these actions.
2. Review task risk assessments relating to mobile crane activities to ensure the tasks are broken into steps and all hazards related to this operation are included (also the extension of the outriggers)
3. All lifting equipment training is valid for 24 months after 5 days of training. Re-training is a one day course and should be done before the expiry date. You may still do re-retraining 90 days after the license had expired however an operator may not operate a mobile crane should his license be expired (No person is allowed to drive or operate any lifting machine without an applicable valid carry card on their person).

SASOL – LEARNING – GROVE OUTRIGGERS



END