

Accident/Incident Notification



Demolition machine fall from height

NSC Ref: 1979

Event type – Demolition machine damage only

Event date and time – 15/06/2016 17:35

Location – Waterloo International Terminal (WIT)



Overview

Platform 24 at WIT is currently being demolished. A Brokk 160 demolition machine was being used, remotely operated. As the jaws of the Brokk 160 broke through the concrete, a large piece broke free and pulled down the Brokk in the process. The Brokk machine fell approx 7.8 metres to the ground into the exclusion zone. As the Brokk fell, the 400v cable whipped around the operator, tripping him up. No injury was sustained.

Immediate Lessons learnt

Demolition work should always be carefully planned and supervised

Consideration should be given to the method in which even the correct equipment for the task is used

Trailing leads should be managed so that they do not present a hazard to people under normal and failure conditions

Discussion points

Whilst we are investigating the causes of this incident, please discuss the following with your teams:

- The Brokk operator was trained and competent to use the machine and yet there was still an accident, what other factors could have been at play?
- If you saw something that you considered to be dangerous would you challenge it?
- What factors might stop you from intervening?