



## WORKPLACE SAFETY NOTICE (WSN)

TOPIC <b>Safety Precautions to be taken when working under Dump Trucks</b>			Reference Number 2021/WSN/01
Approved by: Chief Inspector	Issue date: 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2021	Expiry date: None	Revision No: 01

The Safety, Health and Environment National Authority (SHENA) would like to caution and highlight to the public in particular, all principals, employers, occupiers, self-employed persons and persons at work on the risks and dangers that may be encountered from the operation of dump trucks (also commonly known as “tipper trucks”) which are commonly used to transport dumps such as sand, gravel, demolition waste, etc.

### BACKGROUND

There are associated risks and hazards to be aware about when working under a dump truck. If these risks are not mitigated, serious injury or even death may result. The Safety, Health and Environmental National Authority (SHENA) is currently investigating a workplace fatality involving a deceased person who was found crushed between the bed (also commonly known as “bucket”) of a dump truck and the truck frame.

### TARGET AUDIENCE

This Workplace Safety Notice (WSN) is focused on persons who in their work are involved in the operation, inspection, repair and maintenance of dump trucks. Such information is also useful for the knowledge and awareness of the general public.

### Safety Precautions and Recommendations

1. Operators of Dump Trucks should take the following precautions to protect from hazards when working under a dump truck:
  - a) Engage the dumper-box lock bars before performing maintenance or other jobs under a raised dumper box;
  - b) Do not work under a raised box (not even “for just a little bit”) unless the box is adequately supported by a prop rod or cribbing. Do not rely on the truck’s hydraulic system to hold the box up while working under it;
  - c) When working under a dumper truck, including for maintenance and inspection work, operators shall ensure that the means of support is permanently attached, and is capable of being locked in position to prevent accidental lowering or sudden drop of the body. ‘Homemade’ arrangements are not recommended as means of support and can lead to serious accidents e.g., using a piece of wood as a stopper which can easily be dislodged and causing the truck bed to drop ( refer to the below photos for illustration);
  - d) When being repaired and when not in use, truck bodies shall be fully lowered or blocked;

- e) Ensure that the truck and mechanisms are inspected and maintained regularly with special attention to the underside of the dump trucks, air and hydraulic hoses, electrical cables, control lines and hydraulic motors;
- f) Consult the Operators Manual of the Dump Truck or contact the original equipment manufacturer if there are any doubts on the operation of the Dump Truck.

2. Employers of Dump Truck Drivers and Operators should ensure the following measures are implemented for the purposes of workplace safety and health:

- a) Perform a risk assessment to identify all potential hazards and take appropriate actions to eliminate hazards or reduce the risks involved before starting any work activity.
- b) Ensure employees are provided with information, training and instruction -
  - ✓ on the risks from suspended loads;
  - ✓ risk control measures;
  - ✓ site rules about working near suspended loads.
- c) Ensure Lone Working by one single person is minimized or avoided altogether. If Lone Working is unavoidable, ensure that employees are adequately supervised when undertaking any such activity which requires inspection or maintenance under the suspended load. SHENA has previously issued a Workplace Safety Notice on the risks and dangers of lone working which can be accessed at the SHENA Website at [www.shena.gov.bn](http://www.shena.gov.bn)
- d) Ensure inspections, repair and maintenance of dump trucks are conducted by competent persons.

## **LEGAL DUTIES**

SHENA would like to remind all stakeholders that under the Workplace Safety and Health Order, 2009, (WSHO, 2009), employers must, so far as is reasonably practicable, provide and maintain a safe working environment and without risks to the employees and any person who is affected by their undertakings. This means the employer must eliminate so far as is reasonably practicable the risk associated with working with lifts and suspended loads in the workplace. Where risks cannot be eliminated, it must be reduced so far as is reasonably practicable.

The relevant legal requirements under sections 12(3) and 17 of the WSHO, 2009, regulation 21(1) of the Workplace Safety and Health (General Provisions) Regulations, 2014, the Workplace Safety and Health (Risk Management) Regulations, 2014 and the Workplace Safety and Health (Construction) Regulations, 2014 should also be adhered to. These laws can be referred to and accessed at the SHENA Website at [www.shena.gov.bn](http://www.shena.gov.bn)

## **CONCLUSION**

All Stakeholders are reminded to be aware of the hazards and risks associated with the operation of dump trucks. All Stakeholders are to ensure adequate safety measures before and during job execution are fulfilled. Your constant vigilance, timely and prompt actions could eliminate major incidents.

Below are photos for illustration purpose, retrieved from <https://www.osha.gov/dts/shib/shib091806.html>:

<p>Wooden block might be dislodged</p> 	<p>The I-beam is not attached to the truck frame or dump body. The I-beam could be displaced</p> 
<p>Engineered truck bed brace brackets.</p> 	<p>Positive supports are provided by dump bed manufacturers in the form of body props.</p> 

Should there be any questions concerning this Workplace Safety Notice please contact SHENA at +673 238 2000 or email [info@shena.gov.bn](mailto:info@shena.gov.bn) SHENA would like to thank all stakeholders for their cooperation in ensuring Brunei Darussalam is a safe place to work and live.

END