



Irish Concrete Federation

# Safety Bulletin

**SAFETY BULLETIN NO: MOBILE PLANT**

**DATE: Oct 2016**

## **MOBILE PLANT HAS KILLED & SERIOUSLY INJURED PEOPLE IN IRISH INDUSTRY!!!!**

- Since 2014 there have been 8 fatalities in Irish industry involving mobile plant.
- The majority of these incidents are arising from routine maintenance and operation of mobile plant.

### **REMEMBER!!**

- Pedestrians should always be physically segregated from traffic routes where possible.
- Companies should prepare a risk assessment on the operation and maintenance of all machinery and the operator should be aware of the content of the risk assessment.
- Vehicle operators should carry out and record daily pre-start checks on their vehicles paying particular attention to brakes, steering, lights and visibility aids. The vehicle operator should raise any defects observed immediately with the supervisor or mechanic and defects should be rectified as soon as possible, or where necessary, the vehicle taken out of service.

**When entering or dismounting from mobile plant, always use three points of contact.**



### **TRAINING**

- All drivers of mobile plant must hold the relevant certified training and where required, the appropriate QSCS certified training.

### **SAFE OPERATING PRACTICES**

- Where fitted, the wearing of seat belts is compulsory.
- Mobile plant should be driven with attachments/equipment in the lowest safe position.
- Companies should prepare a site specific traffic management plan and all operators and contractors should observe and comply with this traffic management system.
- Operators should drive with due care and attention appropriate to site and weather conditions.
- Operators should report any collision, incident or near miss, however slight, to site management.
- Unless fitted with a passenger seat and seat belt, no person should ride in the cab of a moving vehicle in addition to the driver.
- Under no circumstances should any person ride on the outside or in the bucket of any vehicle.
- Work at height should only be carried out in a suitable vehicle with an enclosed platform or secured basket that is operated by the person(s) inside it. A risk assessment should be prepared for such work.
- The use of mobile phones by operators of mobile plant should be prohibited while the vehicle is in motion. All calls should be made or received only after the mobile plant item has been parked safely.
- Recovery and restraint of vehicles should only be carried out under strict supervision.
- Dumpers/lorries should be evenly loaded and not loaded over the cab end.
- Work should never be carried out under an unsupported body or attachment.
- Inflation of tyres should only be carried out from a position of safety and correct tyre pressure should be known in advance.

### **PARKING**

Avoid parking on gradients and never leave machines unattended unless;

- the engine is shut off;
- the parking brake(s) has been applied;
- the ignition key has been removed;
- where fitted, raised equipment has been placed on the ground;
- where fitted, the isolator has been turned off;
- the machine is parked so as not to cause an obstruction to traffic and pedestrians;
- Avoid parking adjacent to quarry faces or under quarry plant;
- Reverse parking should be encouraged where possible.

### **REVERSING**

Reversing of machines should be minimised where possible.

- The driver should determine the danger zone around the machine and ensure that the area is clear of persons and other obstructions.
- Full use should be made of reversing aids available as outlined in statutory regulations.
- Where visibility is restricted, assistance should be sought.

### **PEDESTRIANS AND VISITORS**

- All pedestrians should wear high visibility clothing and make eye contact with the machine operator before approaching the machine so that the operator is aware of his/her presence.
- All visitors collecting product must be informed that they must remain in their vehicles at all times during loading.
- A designated loading area where customers can park and await loading should be provided.

**You should never step out in front of a vehicle!**



*Disclaimer: This bulletin has been prepared for the Irish Concrete Federation in consultation with the Federation's Health & Safety Committee and is issued for guidance only. Members are reminded of the requirement to have Safe Operating Procedures as per the relevant Health & Safety Regulations. Every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained herein is correct and accurate at the date of publication. However the Irish Concrete Federation cannot accept any responsibility or liability for any errors, inaccuracies or omissions which may have occurred inadvertently.*

8 Newlands Business Park, Naas Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

T: 01 464 0082

F: 01 464 0087

E: [info@irishconcrete.ie](mailto:info@irishconcrete.ie)

W: [www.irishconcrete.ie](http://www.irishconcrete.ie)