

# SAFETY ALERT

**Incident Title:**

Crane Arm incident

**Date of Incident:**

January 2017

**Incident Description and Details:**

A contractor's operator failed to fully retract the crane arm after offloading pre-cast walls at a site location. The operator drove forward to a second site position with the boom still protruding from the side of the truck. The crane arm hit a light pole causing it to fall in front of the truck and onto the closed lane of a main road.

**Recommendations/Lessons**

- The contractor should have retracted the boom of the crane fully and placed it into the standby/transport mode. The fitting of a warning device is being investigated.
- The contractor's Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) did not risk assess what could happen if the crane was not fully retracted.
- A spotter was not supplied to the driver at the time to assist in giving directions.

**A REMINDER TO ALL STAFF**

- Ensure risk assessment is undertaken for the task before proceeding and that the SWMS reflects this.
- Where there is a need for plant and equipment such as a crane, assess if spotters should be used to lower the risk.

**Contact Person:** Belinda King  
**Section:** Infrastructure Delivery  
**Alert Number:** 0025