

Safety and health alert

21/95 Elevating work platform collapse

Incident

A Squirrel 100 kg SWL elevating work platform was being towed to a work site. While negotiating a corner, the towing attachment and front wheel support collapsed.

The 1 3/4 inch (45 mm) OD pipe front wheel support was manufactured by Crendon Machinery. 1 3/4 inch (45mm) OD support shafting is fitted to Squirrel elevating work platforms with serial numbers below 88424.

Factors

The machine may have been towed in excess of the design speed of 30 km/hr, placing undue strain on the towing attachment and front wheel support.

The design of the towing attachment and castor wheel support may not have been adequate for all situations.

Recommendations

1. Do not exceed the designed towing speed.
2. Check the castor wheel support shafting for cracks or deformation during regular maintenance checks.
3. Consult the manufacturer for available modifications to the towing attachment and castor wheel support.

Further Information

Further information can be obtained from the WorkSafe internet site www.worksafe.wa.gov.au, or by contacting customer service on 1300 307 877 or email: safety@docep.wa.gov.au.

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