

Safety and health alert

07/06 Crane rollover

Incident

A mobile crane rolled over while lifting a fibreglass swimming pool into a residential backyard.

The crane company obtained a site report that did not indicate the location of any underground services in the area where the crane was to be set up.

The crane driver set up the crane on the roadside with two outriggers extended onto the verge. One of the outriggers was unknowingly positioned over a water main. The weight on the outrigger damaged the water main and made the surface soft and water logged. The outrigger sank during the lift and the crane overturned. The crane was not overloaded.

Factors to consider

- Nobody involved in planning the lift contacted the relevant authorities to determine the location of any underground services.
- The bearing capacity of the supporting surface can be reduced by damage to underground services.

Recommendations

1. Contact the relevant authorities or Dial Before You Dig to establish the location of underground services if work may interfere with any gas, water, sewerage or electrical service.
2. Document the location of services as required by Occupational Safety and Health Regulation 3.21(1).
3. Take precautions to ensure the stability of the crane and crane standing if underground services are located in the work area.

Further information

Further information can be obtained from WorkSafe's internet site www.worksafe.wa.gov.au or by contacting Customer Services on 1300 307 877 or email safety@docep.wa.gov.au.

Information about Dial Before You Dig can be found at www.dialbeforeyoudig.com.au.

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