

Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety Unit

OHS ALERT

Spotters Must Be On The Ground For All EWP Operators

The South Australian Coroner has recommended that spotters be used whenever scissor lifts are operated on construction sites in order to save construction workers' lives.

The Coroner handed down his findings in the inquest into the death of Jorge Castillo-Riffo, who was crushed to death by a scissor lift on a Leighton/Hansen Yuncken site in Adelaide in 2014.

Crushing fatalities have occurred in both scissor lifts and telescopic booms (aka "knuckleboom") and their fundamental principles are the same so spotters must also be used for all types of EWPs.

EWPs are not to be operated unless there is a person on the ground operating as a Spotter and/or a physical anti-crushing device is fitted to the EWP. The spotter must be available at all times to activate the emergency lowering mechanism should that be necessary.

The spotter must also be trained, competent and inducted to operate that piece of plant.

Stand Up, Speak Out, Come Home.



Contact the CFMEU Health and Safety Unit if you have any concerns:

9341 3444

Safety is union business.
Stand up. Speak out. Come home.