

Date Issued: 27 January 2015

Incident Title: Crane Operation

Event Details:

In December 2014 a line mechanic was using a remote control unit (RCU) to operate a truck mounted crane. The RCU was attached to a strap around his neck.

While the crane was stationary, he attempted to assist an adjacent line mechanic with another task when he accidentally hit the slew lever on the remote, causing the crane to slew and push his workmate over, winding him.

While no serious physical injury resulted, there was potential for a more severe outcome.



Recommendations/Learnings:

1. All crane operators, using remote controls, must ensure that they maintain full control of the RCU at all times, and do not assist the work crew whilst they are holding the RCU.
2. If a crane operator using an RCU decides to provide assistance to the work crew, then the RCU must be placed in a safe position to ensure that the crane remains stationary whilst the RCU is not in their control.

Immediate Action Taken:

1. Incident report completed
2. Investigation completed
3. Alert prepared

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