



# Fine for excavator access

UK livestock haulage company W Gibson & Son has been fined £18,000 after a self-employed farm worker fell three metres from an excavator. The man, 31, was carrying out maintenance on a barn roof at Mayvill farm, Scarborough, from a 'non-integrated' work platform when it broke free and fell to the ground. He suffered a fractured sternum, six broken ribs, a fractured bone in his back and three broken teeth.

HSE inspector Chris Tilley said: "Excavators should not be used under any circumstances for lifting people as they are primarily designed for excavating and consequently are capable of operating at speeds and movements which make them totally unsuitable for lifting people. Non-integrated work platforms should also not be used for pre-planned activities such as periodic maintenance. This incident could so easily have been avoided by properly assessing the risk and employing suitable work at height equipment, such as scaffolding or an integrated work platform, including powered access."

## \$450k for serious fall

Roofing company Charman Australia has been fined \$450,000 after a plumber fell through a roof while working on the construction of the new WA Museum in Perth, Western Australia, in 2019. It is one of the first sentences under the new regime in which companies can be fined up to \$2 million for breaches of workplace safety and health laws.

On the day of the incident roofing panels had been removed in order to install waterproof sarking boards. It had not been replaced when a second man inadvertently stepped on an unprotected sarking board and fell seven metres to the concrete floor below. He suffered a fractured shoulder and leg and was signed off from work for 13 months as a result.

WorkSafe western Australia commissioner Darren Kavanagh said: "All the equipment necessary to create a suitable fall injury prevention system was on site, along with a licenced rigger with specific expertise in creating these

systems, and all roof plumbers had access to safety harnesses. Despite having controls available, no system was in place and this worker had a devastating fall."

> A man fell seven metres through a roof at the WA Museum in Australia 🌃



# **Barnhart installs ITI Learning Hub**

US based Barnhart Crane & Rigging has installed an ITI Learning Hub to help with safety and skills training for its 1,600 employees across 50 locations. It includes the company's 'Qual Card' system, which includes

knowledge and skills verification and now covers over 150 skill sets.

Jeff Latture, senior vice president sales & marketing, said: "We wanted to improve several aspects of our approach and delivery of employee training, so we reached out to ITI for help. We have worked with ITI since 2010, most notably as partners at our Memphis training centre, and in the development of its ASME-credentialed online Rigging Engineering programme."



### Cta training

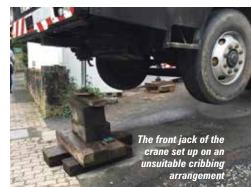
# **Double violation** costs £64k

UK contractor JF Wright has been fined a £64,000 plus costs of £4,926 after the HSE uncovered a number of unsafe practices during a site visit in Malvern.

The first violation involved an All Terrain crane being 'operated in an unsuitable position'. Not only had the front end been jacked up more than two metres using an assortment of rough timber blocks, but it was also protruding into the public footpath. It was later discovered that no lifting plans had been made, nor a competent lift supervisor appointed. The company was also fined for working from a temporary scaffold platform at an approximate height of 10 metres without any safety measures in place.

**HSE** inspector Chris Gregory, said: "Although there were no incidents involved, there was the potential for serious injuries or fatalities in two different areas of work being undertaken at the time of the inspection. Those in control of work have a responsibility to ensure that workers are adequately

trained, properly supervised, and work activities are appropriately planned, managed and monitored."





## Who trained him?

Spotted in Switzerland, a man rendering the front of a property using a series of ladders, trestle tables and wooden planks, all precariously balanced on the roof of a tractor cah.

