



Tasmania

DEPARTMENT of
INFRASTRUCTURE,
ENERGY and RESOURCES

WORKPLACE STANDARDS TASMANIA

Attention: Mr Nabil Kolta

ME 005 Committee
Standards Australia
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Your Ref:
Our Ref: IS088/2003

Re Franna and Linmac type Articulating Mobile Cranes

Dear Sirs

The coroner of an inquest into a workplace fatality involving a Linmac AWD16 mobile crane overturning while operating on a cross slope has recommended that:-

“a formal approach be made to Standards Australia to amended AS 1418.5 and 2550.5 to include inclinometers and gradient derating charts as mandatory requirements for all articulating mobile cranes regardless of capacity”.

His further recommendations include that:- “the Linmac AWD16 model cranes be recalled and fitted an amended capacity chart which shows load derating when operating on gradients which exceed 8.75% and articulation angles which exceed 10 degrees” and

“an inclinometer be fitted in the operator’s cabins of these cranes and that such a device should be ‘red lined’ to show an operating exclusion zone beyond 8.75% gradient in any direction”.

This is as a result of calculations completed for the coroner by Mr Dinko Miocevich MIE Aust., CPEng. of 29 Tidewater Way, Ascot Waters, WA 6014 which show the crane rapidly became unstable when articulating downhill on a cross slope exceeding 8.75%.

Mr Micevich further noted that Terrex Cranes of Brisbane, who manufacture the Franna crane, which is similar to the Linmac, have issued charts which show derating of up to 60% of the crane’s capacity on lateral gradients up to 8.75%. Beyond that gradient the cranes were not permitted to lift any loads.

Workplace Standards Tasmania on behalf of the coroner requests the Standards Australia ME005 committee to consider the above and advise if inclinometers and gradient derating charts are mandatory under AS1418.5 and 2550.5 codes for articulating mobile cranes. If mandatory when did this occur. The committee’s view on whether any such provision should be applied retrospectively would also be appreciated.

Workplace Standards Tasmania is considering requiring all existing and new Linmac and Franna type articulating mobile cranes operating in Tasmania to be fitted with inclinometers and gradient derating charts.

Yours faithfully

Robert Kent
SOUTHERN REGIONAL MANAGER
18 January 2006