



SAFE OPERATION OF CONCRETE BOOM PUMPS

To all CFMEU Organisers Safety Reps, Delegates and Concrete Yard Safety Committees,

I have been advised by Dan Leavy, Senior Plant Engineer with WorkCover NSW, that there is an alarming trend developing in the concrete placing boom pump industry where boom pump operators are becoming directly involved in the handling and placement of concrete via the rubber snorkel hose. WorkCover advised that under no circumstances should this be allowed to continue. Boom pumps are considered to be a crane by WorkCover, and there is a requirement for the operator to stand well back from the job area so that they can observe all aspects of the concrete pour that is taking place.

Under no circumstance should the operator of the boom pump attempt to assist in the placing of concrete by guiding the hose. This part of the operation should be carried out by a second person. The operator must not attempt to slew the boom without a second person controlling the swing at the base of the hose.

WorkCover have advised that where a WorkCover officer visits a site and observes work being carried out incorrectly and that persons are exposed to the risk of injury, that the officer may take appropriate action. The boom pump operator must be the holder of a Certificate of Competency under the National Certification Code (Concrete Placing Boom PB).

I would remind all CFMEU Officials, Safety Committee Members and Delegates that there is an absolute requirement for all concrete placing boom pumps and concrete line pump operators to be able provide an up to date log book for the machine they are operating. This log book should also include the appropriate paper work for the regular inspections of the steel concrete lines.

NO concrete pour should be allowed to commence without the appropriate paper work being up to date.

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