



## CFMEU SAFETY ALERT

# LIFTING OF BAGS

In recent months there have been a number of site accidents arising from bags with sand and other building materials splitting whilst being lifted by cranes.

On a site recently at St Leonards a bag of pebbles split whilst being lifted. A worker was injured in this accident.

Tonnes of sand and other materials have plummeted to the ground on a number of other sites. Fortunately to date no workers or members of the public have been killed or seriously injured.

**However, bags splitting represent a real threat to the lives of workers and pedestrians.**

With many of the bags being used there is often no proof of where they have been manufactured, what the bag is made of or whether the bag has deteriorated in quality having been left in the sun for months on end.

The Union intends to eliminate this threat.



The Union has decided that no bags containing sand or other materials are to be lifted by cranes unless the bags are secured in a cage on a hardwood pallet. Softwood pallets are not acceptable. Also, slings, chains and lifting cages must be tested so they meet Australian standards. If the builder does not co-operate workers should sit in the sheds until this safety problem is fixed.



CFMEU Safety Expert conducting an audit of bags on a building site.

## SAFETY BEFORE PROFITS

PRINT THIS LEAFLET AND PLACE IT ON YOUR NOTICE BOARD AT WORK



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