

NEWS ARTICLE #2

FORKLIFT TRUCK INJURY Fractured skull and internal bleeding

THE INCIDENT

An employee at an Osborne Park workplace suffered a fractured skull and internal bleeding when he fell three metres to the ground from a work platform elevated on the tines of a forklift truck. He was off work for two months.

The employee was attempting to remove a sign from an external wall of a building. The driver left the vehicle unattended while the cage with the employee inside was elevated. During the driver's absence the cage slipped sideways causing the employee to fall out.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

1. Using an inappropriately designed cage for elevating personnel.
2. Leaving the forklift unattended while the employee was elevated in the cage.
3. Failing to adequately assess a high risk activity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No person should ride on or be elevated by a forklift truck except in elevating platforms that conform with proper standards.

No person should operate a forklift truck without training.