

Safety Lessons Learned

Near Miss: Skid Steer Tyres Fell During Adjustment

Project

WCX3A – St Peters Interchange site

GMR Risk Categories

GMR 4.2 - Fall of Material/Object

What Happened

In preparation for lifting a load, the skid steer operator attempted to adjust the tyres. The operator requested assistance from a nearby worker and lifted the attachment from the ground to aid the manual movement of the tyres. As the worker pushed one of the tyres across the rail, it has fallen off, narrowly missing the worker's feet.



Fig 1. Skid steer tyres and rail system



Fig 2. Plate welded to plant

Immediate Cause

Workers did not follow the Original Equipment Manufacturer's (OEM) method for adjusting tyres, which is to lower the attachment to the ground and adjust the tyres.

Identified Root Cause

The design of the tyre rail system allows for the complete removal of the tyres, thus inadvertently allowing for the tyres to fall if not handled correctly.

Lessons Learned

- A plate that eliminates the risk of the tyres from inadvertently falling has been welded to all relevant plant; and
- Always refer to and follow the instructions and safety requirements in the OEM's manual when operating any plant, machinery or equipment.