

SAFETY ALERT

Modifications of Tractor Units into Tipper Trucks



Recently at the Victoria Park Alliance project, a truck loaded with AP65 tipped over while getting ready to start spreading the material. As the truck raised its hoist into position to start spreading, the chassis cracked in between the second and third axle on the right side causing the deck to fall to the right.

The investigation identified that the six wheeled truck was once a tractor unit and had been modified into a tip truck. The picture at right clearly shows that the chassis strengthening finishes prior to the third axle, which carries most weight when tipping or spreading material.

The insurance assessors report identified that while the original chassis and suspension specification were adequate for a tractor unit it was below spec for tipper work.



The identified hazard is the modification of the tractor unit chassis which had been converted to a tipper truck.

- Owners of tipper trucks that have been modified from tractor units are advised to check the rear axle to ensure that the chassis is double skinned the full length of the chassis and not only to the second axle.
- It is advised that all modifications are inspected and certified, ensuring compliance and recorded in the COF database.