Environment, Health and Safety

Ports, Customs & Free Zone Corporation







SAFETY ALERT

A serious accident occurred recently at the Deira Corniche and Palm project when a dump truck ran off a temporary road on a breakwater under construction. As can be seen from the photograph the dump truck overturned and ended up in the sea.

The investigation carried out by EHS identified that there were a number of failures that contributed to the accident. Firstly the risk assessment undertaken by the contractor did not identify adequate control measures to reduce the risk of vehicles running off the breakwater. Secondly as a result of the inadequate risk assessment there was no demarcation of the road edge which may have made the driver aware of his position on the road and stopped him overrunning the edge. It was also discovered that the operator did not hold a license for the equipment and had also not been inducted.

All contractors must note the following points which relate to the general requirements of risk assessment as well as the specifics of this accident.

For further information contact: Environment, Health and Safety Tel. No. 04 8812225

- The main contractor is responsible for ensuring that all foreseeable hazards of the work are identified in a risk assessment.
- Whilst the risk assessment should be kept as simple as possible it must still contain the necessary detail to adequately control the risks.
- Where there is a risk of plant running off a road into the sea or water the edge must be clearly defined. Ideally a berm should be formed which will serve two purposes; defining the edge and preventing accidental overrun.
- All roads must be clearly signed with speed limit signage and all necessary warning signage displayed.
- Procedures must be in place and regularly audited to ensure that plant operators are competent and hold a valid operators license.
- The main contractor must ensure that all workers are inducted before they start work on the project, this must extend to temporary workers who may only be on site a few days.
- In addition to the induction workers must be fully briefed on the control measures identified in the risk assessment, this will normally be communicated via tool box talks.

Safety Alert 028 170507