

◀ HEALTH & SAFETY ALERT ▶



Remote Control Lorry Loaders

This alert was provided by our colleagues at Balfour Beatty and is based on important safety information received from the Association of Lorry Loader Manufacturers and Importers (ALLMI).

In the last two months there have been **two fatalities** involving the use of radio remote controls on lorry loaders. In both cases, it is suspected that the Operator **failing to isolate** the remote control whilst attaching/detaching the load may have been the cause of them being crushed.

ALLMI is preparing an urgent awareness campaign on this topic and they aim to make a number of tools available including:

1. Leaflets aimed at operators and their immediate supervisors.
2. A short web-based awareness/refresher video.
3. Toolbox talks template.

All the above items will be made available free-of-charge as soon as they are ready.

In the meantime, ALLMI have detailed some pertinent tips below for us to follow, most of which are extracted from their Guidance Note GN016:

Safety Tips for Operators using Remote Controls

- Always check site rules to confirm that the use of a remote control is permitted.
- Always use the belt / neck strap provided.
- The operator must always be aware of the working area, including their proximity to the load and vehicle.
- Never stand between the load and a fixed object such as the vehicle or a wall.
- Never walk whilst operating the remote control.
- Always use in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Always ensure the remote is de-activated when not in use.
- Always store the control unit in a suitable place when not in use.

If you see any Operator not following the above – please tell them – DON'T WALK BY!