

# Ador Products

## Subject: Risk of crush injury within the workplace

### Incident:

- As part of an enforceable undertaking agreed between Ador Products Pty Ltd and Workplace Health and Safety Queensland arising from an incident where an employee received serious crush injuries, a commitment to publish an article on the nature of the incident was agreed.
- The incident occurred when a steel coil was being moved by crane from storage into the roll forming area.
- Three workers were in the area at the time of the incident. During the process of removing the crane hook the coil toppled over and pinned one worker to the ground causing the worker to suffer serious crush injuries.

### Key lessons:

- Steel coils can easily topple over even with limited force;
- Steel coils are extremely heavy and pose a significant safety risk to workers;
- Significant training is required to safely operate the overhead crane and handling coils; and
- Clear communication on the factory floor is imperative, both from an operational and OHS perspective.

### Recommendations:

- The roll forming area must be cordoned off to prevent other workers accessing the work area;
- All steel coil must be stored in specific coil racks minimising the risk of falling or toppling whilst free standing;
- Only the roll forming operator is to handle the process of changing a coil on the machine;
- Immediate re-training was required for all staff involved in the roll forming process;
- Immediate review of the operating procedure in the roll forming area – in particular ensuring that it is imperative the existing coil on the machine must be removed before the next coil is hooked up to the crane;
- A written and vocal understanding of English is a requirement for this area;
- Ador Products Pty Ltd should ensure a competent worker is onsite to operate the gantry crane at all times;
- Immediate review of the induction process for all workers;
- Implement regular OHS meetings in the factory;
- Review the layout of the factory to identify further ways of minimising safety risks;
- Ador Products Pty Ltd to review English language communication skills, prior to the commencement of employment; and
- An interpreter to be provided by Ador Products Pty Ltd should any staff have communication difficulties, for training and consultative purposes.

If you are unsure of your obligations under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*, or require more information on work health and safety, including enforceable undertakings, visit [www.worksafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au)

**Workplace Health and Safety Queensland has reviewed the contents of this article.**