

Crane Operator – Fractured Wrist

What happened?

At approx. 1515 hrs, the IP was overseeing and assisting with the removal of boom sections from the Terex TC2800-1 main crane at WTG 07. While releasing the heel pins to remove the boom butt end section, it has moved suddenly towards the crane cab which is immediately adjacent to where this section's hinges are located.

The IP has attempted to halt the movement of the crane boom's butt end hinge section towards the crane cab by placing his left arm between the crane cab and the moving boom section.

This resulted in his left wrist being hyper-extended as his forearm was positioned between the crane cab and the boom section. The IP experienced immediate discomfort.

North Island Wind Farm

What did we learn?

Root Cause:

Failure to fully risk assess potential for crane boom butt end to move suddenly in an unplanned direction once heel pins removed and any stored energy is released.

Contributing Factors:

- Arm was placed in bad position whereby it could be caught between the moving crane boom section's heel and the side of the crane control cabin
- Crane arm moved suddenly and in an unexpected direction toward the Cab

