

Dropped Pipe from a truck bed

What happened?

An approx. 4m x 1350mm pipe, was being loaded onto a truck using a Merlo Telehandler. However, the pipe slipped from the Telehandler's jaws and rolled off the opposite side of the truck, resting on the ground beside the vehicle.

Root causes:

Failure to identify potential risk:

- No chocks/dunnage on the trailer deck to stop the pipe from rolling off.
- The Merlo's jaws were not sufficient to hold the large 1350mm diameter pipe securely.

Learnings:

1. When loading any pipe, ensure the correct Merlo attachment is suitable for the job being used.
2. When the job changes, re-assess the method, including associated risks and controls, and ensure the JSA is updated.
3. Where possible use stanchions fitted to the truck/trailer.
4. If this is not possible or practicable, make certain to place chocks/dunnage down on the deck before loading.
5. Ensure there is demarcation of the loading area including the far side of the truck.
6. Consider utilising an extra spotter when loading pipe to control area entry.



The pipe on the ground beside the truck.