

### **BACKGROUND:**

At a construction site in Perth a scissor lift operator has driven his machine over a penetration which was covered with formwork ply.

The combined weight of the EWP and operator has caused the ply to fail causing the machine to fall into the penetration. The operator has managed to jump from the machine and did not sustain any injuries.

Upon inspection of the incident site it was noted that the penetration cover was not properly marked "DANGER-HOLE BENEATH" or was there any physical barrier in place to prevent any mobile plant from driving over the penetration cover.

The construction of the cover was not of adequate strength to allow any plant or equipment from travelling over it.

The estimated weight of the machine was 1500kg.



### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Ensure that all penetrations are covered and securely fixed
- Any covering used is clearly and legibly marked "DANGER-HOLE BENEATH"
- Any material used as a cover is strong enough to prevent persons or things from falling into the penetration or to put in place a physical barrier in areas where mobile plant may be present.

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