

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Near Miss / Scaffold / Mobile Equipment Pedestrian Interface (MEPI)

After completing a routine wrap change, an employee used a forklift to move a skid of tramp re-pulp to the re-pulper area. After unloading the skid, the employee began reversing the forklift, using proper shoulder checks and staying visually aware of their surroundings.

However, the pallet had not been fully lowered, leaving the forklift mast in a raised position. As the forklift backed up, the top of the mast struck the cross brace of an overhead scaffold.

Fortunately, no one was on the scaffold at the time, and no injuries occurred.

The incident revealed the scaffold placement had not been risk-assessed in relation to mobile equipment paths.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Immediately remove the scaffold from service to further prevent risk or damage.
- Clearly mark the area by placing “**Do Not Enter**” red tape and information tags at all scaffold access points to restrict pedestrian and equipment traffic underneath.
- Notify anyone who may need to access the scaffold to avoid using it until further notice.
- Report the incident to supervisor right away to ensure proper documentation and follow-up.
- Secure the surrounding area to prevent unauthorized access while scaffold is being assessed.



MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Update Safe Work
Procedures (SWPs) to
include exclusion zones for
all high-risk activities (MEPI,
Working at Heights, etc.).

