

Abstract of an Accident

FY95-1

MISHAP TYPE: Weight Handling Equipment (WHE)
INJURY: None
DAMAGE: None
TYPE OF WORK: Crane Operations
EQUIPMENT: Crane/JLG/Tractor Trailer
SAFETY EQUIPMENT: Hard Hats/Safety Shoes/Gloves

DESCRIPTION OF MISHAP

A self-propelled aerial work platform (JLG) was transported on a flat bed tractor trailer truck from a remote site to the Public Works Center for maintenance. Upon arrival, the trailer was positioned parallel to the adjacent maintenance building and perpendicular to a 90 ton lattice boom crane. The crane crew was tasked with lifting the JLG off the far side of the trailer towards the building. In order to use the four lifting points without special adjustments being made the JLG's boom was to be in the side stowed position as recommended by the manufacturer. When the JLG's Boom was swung around to the side position next to the building, the crew noticed that there was not enough room left between the building and man basket to make the lift towards the building. The crane crew elected to raise the JLG's boom upward, which allowed extra footage from the basket to the wall of the building. The crane lifted the JLG upwards when the load weight shifted onto two legs of the sling cables resulting in the JLG's counter weight setting on the ground, the back tires on the trailer bed and the front tires approximately six feet off the trailer bed.

DIRECT CAUSE

The moving of the boom from the side stowed position to a raised position changes the JLG's center of gravity.

CONTRIBUTING CAUSES

- The parking of the tractor trailer in close proximity to the building.
- The failure of the crane crew to recognize the hazardous situation.

LESSONS LEARNED

If the configuration of the load is changed from what is recommended by the manufacturer, personnel should immediately recognize that the potential for the unexpected exists.

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