

SAFETY ALERT

Telehandler Overturning

Dangerous Occurrence

A telehandler forklift was operating at Bradwell power Station carrying a load of steel rebar (2135kg's) suspended from the correct lifting attachment by 4 leg chains. The load was being carried with the boom elevated at 56 degrees with 1.54m of extension with the truck driving slowly in first gear, when the truck turned a shallow corner on uneven ground it overturned coming to rest on a muck pile.



The load was being carried too high and was outside its safe working limits, the pendulum effect of the rebar caused the truck to over balance and fall to the side. No one was injured and the driver only suffered a minor bump to the head.

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Lesson to learn.

- Be aware of the different Safe Working Loads (SWL) for static & suspended loads
 - Site supervisors & managers, familiarise yourself with the duty charts of the lifting equipment on your site so you can see how quickly the SWL changes from 3500kg's to 125kg's with suspended loads. There are no built-in safety features to prevent this happening.



