



Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety Unit

OH&S Alert!

March 2010

Tower Crane Operators - Check Your Cabin Windows

- Glass from broken window falls onto working deck
- Need to check if safety glass installed

CFMEU safety officials were called to an incident in which the window of a tower crane cabin shattered, showering glass onto workers below. The window broke as the operator opened it normally.

This near-miss has focussed attention on the types of glass used in tower crane cabins.

The window that shattered was made of toughened glass. When it fractured, glass particles became loose and fell to the ground, just missing workers.

This hazard can be avoided by the use of laminated safety glass, which will keep glass fragments from coming loose and falling. A similar result can be achieved with window tinting film.

All operators should ask their employer or crane supplier if their cabin windows contain laminated safety glass. If not, measures should be taken so that if a window breaks, glass cannot fall onto work areas below.



For further information contact your safety rep or the CFMEU on 9341 3444.

The CFMEU OH&S Unit gratefully acknowledges the support of Incolink.
Authorised by Bill Oliver, Secretary, Tommy Watson and John Setka, Assistant Secretaries of the CFMEU
Construction and General Division.

www.cfmeuvc.com.au

SAFETY IS UNION BUSINESS