



Safety Alert

Hazard Alert: Working with Tyre-change machinery in confined work areas

An incident occurred where a tyre handler machine made contact with the workshop wall causing some damage while changing a tyre. The root cause was that the machine was operated in an area too small for the size of the tyrehandler, without assessing the limited space before the job was started.

In situations where a machine requiring tyre maintenance is parked in locations such as inside a workshop or similar which makes it difficult to use tyrechanging machinery safely because of the restricted work area around the vehicle, consider the following:

Before you start the job, check if the damaged vehicle can be shifted safely to a location that allows better and unrestricted access by a forklift or tyrehandler.

In situations where the damaged vehicle cannot be shifted, consider the points below:

Ensure that...

- you assess the job at hand first – do a walk around inspection of the work area – step out the distances around the machine and plan your work. Do not commence the work unless you are aware of the limits of the work area and the job can be done safely.
- the work area is well lit and you can see where you are manoeuvring the machine, particularly backwards.
- there are no persons or other machinery in the immediate work area that could get run over, injured or killed. Spotters etc must stand well clear outside of the hazard zone and must maintain visual contact with the moving machinery at all times.
- you do not leave tools etc. lying around as they will get damaged.

Most importantly, if it cannot be done safely and there is a risk of collision – do not start the job!

Assemble Tyres and Rims safely, always

Tilman Rasche
Mgr. Health & Safety

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