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A person died / was fatally injured ...

On September 14th, 2010 at 3pm at St Appolinaire (France), Dijon Beton Ltd - subsidiary of Holcim France - a temporary worker was fatally injured while he was cleaning the inside of the drum of a ready-mix concrete truck.

The victims job consisted in removing the hardened concrete from inside the drum with a jack-hammer to prevent road accidents due to an over weighted truck. For safety reasons and due to the toughness of this activity, the job is always performed by 2 workers. In this very case one of them was the truck driver and the other one was the victim.

The victim had entered the drum partially through the man hole, when the drum started to rotate for currently unknown reasons.

The victim had already performed this job several times since June 2010 and was recognized by his colleagues as professional. Furthermore, a specific safety procedure is in place in Dijon Beton to deal with this particular job.

Police and Company investigations have been commenced. Psychological support was immediately proposed to the victim's family and the staff which was present on site when the accident occurred. Rapid communication within Holcim France by means of this Alert has been initiated.

Key Safety Measure

If applicable, please consider the following aspects:

- ⇒ Make sure that safe working procedures exist in accordance with the FPE Directives on Isolation and Lockout as well as on Confined Space Entry and make sure that they are understood and followed.
- ⇒ Make sure that all staff (permanent and interim) passes the safety induction when they join the OpCo.
- ⇒ Make sure to organize specific safety trainings for particular jobs with high exposure.

Please check and ensure this cannot happen in your company!

An ALERT provides information from an Operating Company of the Holcim Group (OpCo) concerning an OH&S incident that occurred at that OpCo. The ALERT contains preliminary findings of the OpCo which may be subject to change. Corporate OH&S distributes such ALERTS to all OpCos in order to promote rapid learnings from OH&S incidents and further the Passion for Safety Initiative of Holcim. The ALERT is not intended to represent final factual conclusions regarding the involvement of any individual or company in the event, nor is the ALERT intended to assert any factual admission by the involved individuals or OpCo(s).

**OH&S Fatality Accident Report
Holcim Bétons France - Dijon Béton
Saint Apollinaire - September 14th 2010**



Holcim

**Report to Holcim Ltd Executive Committee
303rd EXCO Meeting, Agenda Item # 19**

Gérard Letellier, Country Manager France

Content

- Incident summary
- Sequence of events
- Area of incident
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- OH&S Pyramid
- Immediate corrective measures
- Short-term corrective measures
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- Additional information

Incident Summary

- Injury causing death – 14th September 2010, RMX plant at Saint Apollinaire
 - ▶ Franck GUILLERMET, 33 years old, temporary worker, died whilst taking hardened concrete out of a truck mixer.
- Employee tasks
 - ▶ Worker employed to clean sites and clean the interior of truck mixers (chipping).
- Time of incident
 - ▶ 14:50 hour
- Cause of death
 - ▶ Body severed.

Sequence of Events (1/4)

- **Preamble:**
 - ▶ This report was written without :
 - The hearing of the only witness (subcontracted driver), due to on going legal procedure
 - The conclusions of the police investigations
 - ▶ Dijon Béton incorporated into Holcim Béton France Group in July 2009.
 - An inventory based on the requirements of the OH&S pyramid was carried out in July 2009,
 - An action plan is still in progress

Sequence of Events (2/4)

- The victim was involved in “chipping” of a drum (property of Dijon Béton) on the Saint Apollinaire site.
- This operation is always carried out by two people, one inside the drum and the other watching outside; each person takes his turn inside the drum, 30 minutes at a time.
- The victim, a subcontracted worker, had been doing this chipping job for 2 months and, at the time of the accident, was acting as watcher and the driver was the “chipper” .

Sequence of Events (3/4)

- To start “chipping”, the driver put the drum in the required position and then turned off the engine, keeping the ignition key in his pocket, in accordance with procedure at Dijon Béton.
- The drum was not locked by mechanical means, (in accordance with the procedure)
- For some reason which is still unknown, the victim had the upper part of his body in the manhole.
- The victim was stuck between the drum’s châssis and the top edge of the manhole, as the drum was slowly and imperceptibly turning due to imbalance.

Sequence of Events (4/4)

- The victim called for help.
- A worker arrived on the scene and saw the victim stuck in the manhole. He called to the driver who was on the platform on top of the truck at the time, to come down, restart it and to operate the levers to bring the manhole back up slowly so that the victim could be freed.
- The driver started the truck again, then operated the lever to rotate the drum, unfortunately in the wrong direction.
- The victim's body was severed.

Area of Accident



Picture of the truck just after the accident

Picture of the truck with the manhole open and with the assumed position of the victim



Photos of the controls (rear left of truck)

