

ISSUE

Risk of injury when handling bulk glass in end caps

SAFETY ALERT

MOVING/UNPACKING GLASS IN END CAPS

This safety alert reminds people who move/unpack glass to be wary of potential end cap failure

In December 2016, an individual suffered fatal crush injuries whilst moving packaged sheets of glass using an overhead crane. Failure of the packaging (end caps) was a contributing factor to this incident.

AGGA would like to remind people who unpack glass and other materials from shipping containers, trucks and crates to ensure their health and safety.

Key messages;

- A high percentage of products are being received from overseas through importation. The methods and quality of packaging used for transportation may vary considerably
- Never assume the structural integrity of the packaging supporting the contents
- Steel strapping should not be relied on to support a load
- Ensure the work area is appropriate to perform the work. The area should be clear of obstacles to allow workers to move freely
- Ensure you have robust systems in place to ensure those unpacking are not working underneath or adjacent to a suspended load. Workers should not be placed at risk should a load fail
- Suspended loads should be kept as close to the ground as possible
- Appropriate restraints should be used when removing packaging or where there is a risk of the load shifting

CONTROL / RESOLUTION: ENSURE THIS INFORMATION IS DISTRIBUTED AND PUBLICISED IN YOUR WORKPLACE.

Disclaimer: The information provided in this document is current at the time of publication. It is intended as a general guide only and AGGA recommends that you undertake your own assessments when identifying controls for WHS issues.

Call : 03 8669 0170
Email : agga@agga.asn.au
Web : www.agga.org.au