

Company fined after worker's leg amputated

A waste and recycling company has been fined after an employee's leg was amputated after he was run over by a telehandler.

The man, who was 51 at the time, was working for Eco Waste and Recycling Limited at the company's waste transfer site on Hullocks Pit Hill, Newnham Road, Newnham, Hertfordshire, when he was struck from behind by a reversing telehandler on 16 March 2022. He had been sorting recyclable materials by hand.

This incident led to the man's right leg being amputated from above the knee.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found Eco Waste and Recycling Limited failed to adequately segregate vehicles and pedestrians at its site and failed to act quickly on the findings of risk assessments.

HSE guidance can be found at: [Waste and recycling industries – Collection – Skip hire and waste transfer \(hse.gov.uk\)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/waste/recycling/)

Eco Waste and Recycling Limited, of High Firs Crescent, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, pleaded guilty to breaching 4(1) of the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 and Regulation 5(1) of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999. The company was fined £30,000 and ordered to pay £3,102.50 in costs at St Albans Magistrates' Court on 4 May 2023.

HSE inspector Adam Johnson said: "This incident could so easily have been avoided. Segregation measures should have been in place between vehicles and pedestrians.

"Companies should be aware that HSE will not hesitate to take appropriate action against those that fall below the required standards."

Notes to Editors:

1. The [Health and Safety Executive](https://www.hse.gov.uk/) (HSE) is Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety. We prevent work-related death, injury and ill health through regulatory actions that range from influencing behaviours across whole industry sectors through to targeted interventions on individual businesses. These activities are supported by globally recognised scientific expertise.
2. More information about the [legislation](#) referred to in this case is available.
3. Further details on the latest [HSE news releases](#) is available.