

## TOP PRIORITY SAFETY NOTICE ALERT

Date: **November 18<sup>th</sup> 2007**

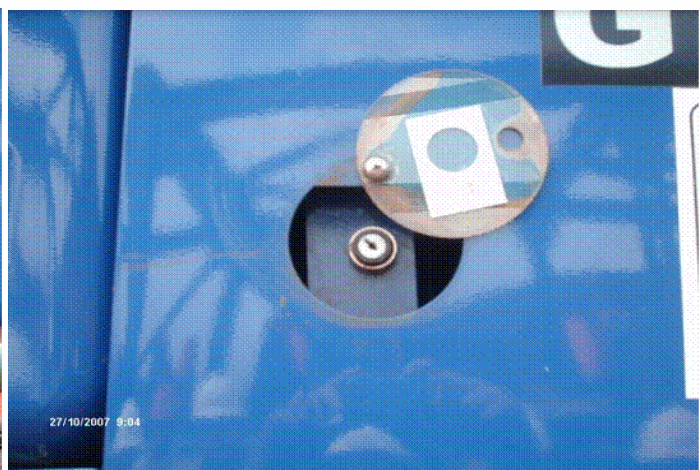
Subject: **CRANE OPERATION – SAFETY DEVICE BYPASSING**

A recent fatal incident occurred at a BHPBIO monitored site, where the crane operator had bypassed the crane safety interlocks and deliberately operated the crane outside of its safe range of operation to the point where it fell over. The photo below shows the Emergency Bypass switch (key locked) on the outside of a Tadano crane that was locked in the on position on the crane involved in the incident and several others within the business. This is typical of the type of emergency bypass switches to be found on cranes.

NB. The key to the emergency bypass switch is to be available to the operator, but only for use in emergency situations (which are very rare).

### What can we do to prevent this type of incident?

- Operate all cranes within their rated capacity at all times;
- Never bypass the crane safety devices, safety interlocks or controls;
- Ensure that all crane lifts are carried out as per the BHPBIO lifting rules and procedures.



### Actions required:

- Emergency bypass controls are to be locked in the off position at all times.
- Crane operators are to ensure that the all emergency bypass controls are locked in the off position at the start of each shift.
- Supervision is to inspect all emergency bypass controls during each shift to ensure they are locked in the off position.
- Crane operational data from the onboard computer is to be downloaded each month to review the safe use and operation of the crane for the month.

NB. The BHPBIO Lifting procedures will be amended to include these requirements.

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**Do not remove from Notice Boards before 20/12/2007**