



# SafeWork SA

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Working around tailgate lifters present unique hazards and risks to WHS. PCBUs and workers should be aware of and implement controls to minimise risk. **Don't put yourself in danger.**

Duty holders must provide or maintain plant or safe systems of work that are, so far as is reasonably practicable, safe and without risks to health and safety.

They can achieve this by:

- Regularly inspecting and maintaining the tailgate lifter and associated equipment
- ensuring the safe working load is displayed
- providing adequate information, instruction, training and/or supervision to persons operating or maintaining the tailgate lifter, or the associated hydraulic system
- managing the risk of a fall by using guard-rail solutions and/or increased slip resistance surfaces and/or placing distinctive markings at the edges of the platform.

Tips for working safely around tailgates:

- If remote controls are used, ensuring the operator does not enter the potential crushing zone of the tailgate lifter.
- workers don't place themselves between the load and the truck, trailer, lifting equipment or any other pinch point
- maintaining an exclusion zone around the truck while loading/unloading will also minimise the risk of anyone being hit by a falling load
- inspect the area around where the tailgate will be lowered onto. The gate should **not** be placed on sloping, uneven, potholed, or unstable ground
- push the load on and off the platform, rather than pulling it, to minimise the risk of falling over the edge
- wear slip resistant footwear.

For more information, visit  
[www.safework.sa.gov.au](http://www.safework.sa.gov.au)  
or phone 1300 365 255



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