
Construction Elevator Accident in Sweden: Missing Nuts and Bolts Revealed as Cause

Description

Last December, [a tragic accident](#) in Stockholm led to the death of five individuals. A construction elevator collapsed, and an investigation has revealed a critical oversight: the bolts designed to secure the elevator's mast were missing. The Swedish Accident Investigation Authority shared these findings on Wednesday.

This catastrophic event unfolded on a 14-story building site in Sundbyberg, a suburb north of Stockholm. The elevator, carrying five workers, plummeted 20 meters (66 feet) to the ground. According to the investigation, the collapse stemmed from the absence of five nut and bolt assemblies essential for stabilizing the elevator's mast. The shaft stood solely due to the friction between its sections, an inherently unstable and dangerous condition.

Before the accident, the mast had been extended to reach the ninth floor. The investigation report suggests these assemblies were "likely" missing during this extension. The disaster struck when the load on the mast exceeded its structural capacity. This excess load caused the mast sections to separate, leading to the elevator's tragic fall.

This revelation has raised significant concerns about safety inspections and compliance with construction regulations. The Swedish Accident Investigation Authority attributed the accident to the failure to conduct proper safety checks on the hoist assembly. This neglect resulted in the mast's inability to support the elevator, ultimately causing the deadly collapse.

The incident has prompted an ongoing investigation by the public prosecutor's office, focusing on potential work environment violations. The decision on whether criminal charges will be pressed remains pending, and no timeline has been provided for this decision.

The absence of these crucial bolts underscores a severe lapse in safety protocols. In the construction industry, regular and thorough safety inspections are paramount to preventing such tragedies. The loss of five lives is a stark reminder of the dire consequences of overlooking essential safety measures.

Ensuring the safety of construction workers is a shared responsibility among all stakeholders involved in a project. This includes site managers, safety inspectors, and regulatory bodies. This accident serves as a critical lesson for the industry, emphasizing the need for stringent adherence to safety standards and regulations.

Strengthening the Call to Action

To prevent future incidents, construction companies must enforce rigorous safety protocols and regular inspections. Authorities should implement stricter regulations and penalties for non-compliance. Training programs should be mandatory to ensure all workers understand and adhere to safety practices. Lives depend on the meticulous execution of these protocols, and every effort must be made

to honour the memory of those lost by fostering a safer working environment for all.

CATEGORY

1. Safety Alerts and Notices
2. Stockholm

POST TAG

1. Accident
2. Compliance
3. Construction Sector
4. Construction Workers
5. Dust
6. Fatality
7. Incident
8. Inspections
9. Responsibility
10. Safety Inspections

Category

1. Safety Alerts and Notices
2. Stockholm

Tags

1. Accident
2. Compliance
3. Construction Sector
4. Construction Workers
5. Dust
6. Fatality
7. Incident
8. Inspections
9. Responsibility
10. Safety Inspections

Date

19/09/2024

Date Created

04/07/2024