

Reach stacker kills dockworker at Pakistani port

By Jite Eriabie on March 23, 2019



PHOTO CREDIT: JOC

A Pakistani dockworker has died after suffering fatal injuries in an incident at Hutchison Port's Karachi International Container Terminal (KICT).

The International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), said the 58-year-old docker died on Sunday March 17, 2019 at the Civil Hospital Karachi less than an hour after a reach stacker reversed over him.

"This is the second time in months that I've be forced to say this: workers are losing their lives at Hutchison ports – an atrocious record for the biggest stevedore in the world – and families and friends are left to bear the scars.

“Safety standards in the yard area are very bad. There is poor lighting in the yard and no one directing traffic management,” Dockers’ Section Chairman of ITF, Paddy Crumlin, said.

The ITF, together with the KICT Labour Union, has called on Hutchinson’s global management to intervene and instigate a joint labour/management investigation into the incident.

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ITF said the latest incident follows the death of five workers at Hutchinson’s Jakarta International Container Terminal (JICT), between 2016 and 2018, and a serious incident in 2018 at Hutchinson’s Port Botany terminal in Sydney that left a worker fighting for her life in an induced coma suffering a broken leg, broken arm and a closed head injury, according to ITF.