



## Fatal industrial accident at Antwerp Container Repair: man ends up under heavy forklift

Kristof Pieters 01 Juli 2019 15:35



A dramatic industrial accident occurred on Monday afternoon at Antwerp Container Repair (ACR) in the Waasland port. A man ended up under a heavy forklift truck and died on the spot. The public prosecutor's office has opened an investigation. Shortly after the fact, a fellow dock worker became involved in another traffic accident on the E34. The man knew the victim and was possibly overwhelmed by the emotions.

The accident happened at the Antwerp Container Repair (ACR) quay at the Blikken in Verrebroek. The company rents a parcel from Antwerp Euro Terminal (AET) and is engaged in the repair of damaged sea containers and the storage of empty containers.

Nothing is known about the precise circumstances, but the victim was run over by a heavy forklift for containers. The fire department, two ambulances and a mosquito team came to the scene. The emergency services undertook another resuscitation attempt, but unfortunately this did not help. The victim died on the spot from his injuries. Some of the man's colleagues were in shock and were taken care of on the spot. The forklift driver, who was handling a container at the time of the accident, was taken to the hospital in shock. The labor prosecutor investigates how the accident could happen. No one was available for comment on Monday at the company.

#### Colleague dock worker injured in other accident

The defeat among staff and other port workers is in any case particularly great. A fellow dock worker also got involved in a traffic accident on the E34 on his way back home around 2.15 pm. At the height of Zwijndrecht he collided with a truck when it was inserted in the direction of Antwerp. The car was dragged a hundred meters and suffered a lot of damage. The driver was injured and was transferred to the UZA. According to colleagues, who stopped immediately after the accident, the victim might still be overwhelmed by emotions. "We were working at the same terminal when the fatal accident happened," one of them testifies. "That was just before the end of the morning shift. Our colleague knew the victim personally and was naturally affected by this. He was probably still a bit of his milk when he drove home by car ... "

Due to the accident, two of the three lanes on the E34 were blocked for a while, causing a long traffic jam with waiting times of more than an hour. As a result, the center and several residential areas in Melsele had to cope with quite a bit of short-cut traffic.

