





06/05/22

Work related injury

Cambridgeshire Highways



Incident notification 	Alert 	Information 	Toolbox Talk 
Date and time of incident:	25/02/22 1210hrs	Injury severity:	Over 7 days
Alert Author:	Ian Pedder	Potential severity:	Serious
HS&W Lead:	Leon Reilly	Investigation Completed:	Full
Trade/company involved:	Durman Stearn	Operational disturbance:	Trapped in, under or between objects

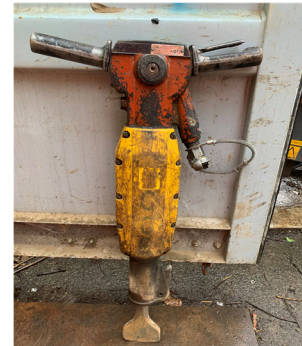
What Happened?

On Friday the 25th February 2022 a subcontractor operative was operating a pneumatic breaker to break up some concrete. The concrete was extremely hard and as the concrete broke away the operative lost his balance and fell causing him to trap his fingers between the pneumatic breaker handle and the side wall of the drainage trench which he was working in at the time.

On Sunday the 27th February 2022 A&E confirmed by x-ray the IP had fractured his middle finger in 3 places and broken his ring finger.

Incident was not reported on the day of the incident it was reported on Monday the 28th February 2022

[Pneumatic hand breaker]



Key Investigation Findings/Learning:

Findings:

- Incident not reported at time of incident
- No ground condition survey's / coring / trial holes taken prior to works taking place
- GPR Survey taken before accident but not before the scheme started
- Change in ground conditions (old kerb line). Contractor made Milestone aware and had been breaking out concrete with no issues prior to accident
- Equipment being used slightly above IP's feet. Potential manual handling issue Musculoskeletal injury. Control of breaker slightly compromised as using above feet and therefore unable to fully control breaker with upper body strength
- Thought process was to not use excavator mounted pecker due to proximity of gas service, decision was made to use hand breaker
- IP held onto breaker as he lost control and trapped fingers between handle of breaker and trench wall
- Incorrect selection of breaker attachment (Bolster Chisel)
- IP returned to banksman duties

Positive Findings

- All members of the site staff inducted including company induction and site-specific induction
- Supply chain extremely cooperative and quick to respond to investigation
- Revised RAMS specific to present site conditions was carried out
- Reviewed SSOW around size of breaker on site / researching alternative equipment
- IP trained and competent
- Tools authorised for use and service records up to date. Daily checks completed

[Post incident location]



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Incident
notification



Alert



Information



Toolbox Talk



Contract/Project Specific Learning Points:

- Consideration of plant, equipment and associated attachments are suitable and appropriate for the task
- Review and up-date of RAMS if the work or site conditions change
- Ensure all equipment is used appropriately in accordance with safe system of work

Business Considerations for Learning:

- Where appropriate ensure all ground conditions surveys are carried out prior to start of work
- Consideration of plant, equipment and associated attachments are suitable and appropriate for the task
- Review and up-date of RAMS if the work or site conditions change

Basic Risk Factor:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housekeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Defences | <input type="checkbox"/> Design | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Error Enforcing Conditions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedures | <input type="checkbox"/> Incompatibility of Goals | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Organisation |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tools/Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Communication |

Action Required:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brief | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Display | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Only |
|---|---|---|