GS6 - Avoiding Overhead Cables

A47 Blofield

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Case Study No:
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Knowledge/Case Study Type:

Quality, Efficiency & Improvement

Engineering & Design

Key Points:

- Fixed and permanent position.
- Clearly visible.
- Can be identified from distance.
- Foundations were created to a temporary works design and ITP.
- Provides drivers with adequate warning of overhead obstacles.

Description

To reduce the risk of accidents, during any work close to overhead services, you need a mix of strong management, planning, and consultation with workers on site.

Managers and workers on the A47 Blofield scheme have designed and created a more visible, sturdy GS6 goalpost system, that is proving far superior to the telescopic posts used elsewhere.

Action

On this scheme as with many others, work could not be avoided/eliminated around overhead lines. The team reviewed the current GS6 requirements to see how they could improve the overall safety and visibility. With the below points in mind

- Avoiding damage to overhead cables.
- One of the problems with overhead cables, is that they are simply just difficult to spot in foggy or dull conditions and people just don't always notice them.
- Every possible precaution must be taken to avoid personal injury or damage to overhead cables that could cause significant risk to the surrounding area.

Result & Transfer

- The standard GS6 was replaced with a more visible and permanently fixed goalpost system that is identifiable from a distance and in adverse weather conditions
- The posts and foundations have been designed and created on site.
- The posts are made using 160 mm Osma piping which is then painted red and white on site prior to installation.
- Eliminate all risks, as even minor damage can pose a severe risk. Making it essential to ensure that overhead cables are correctly identified and avoided during work on site.
- We are currently using this GS6 throughout the whole site.
- Good management, planning and consultation with workers on site and during any work close to overhead lines will reduce the risk of accidents.

Benefit of use

- The Osma piping is stronger with more prominent red and white sections, meaning the GS6 is more visible throughout the whole site.
- The concrete blocks add stability for the goalposts.
- The goalposts can be moved to different locations on site with forklift sleeves in the concrete foundations
- The Risk of damaging utilities is much lower.
- Clear crossing points have been created to warn Plant machines and vehicles to the dangers of overhead cables and powerlines on site.
- Keeps the number of passageways to a minimum.