

Description:

An accident occurred on the 11th August 2017 at the M5 Oldbury Viaduct scheme, where an employee fractured their ankle when exiting the welfare unit.



Investigation / findings:

- The welfare unit was bought into use before being ready.
- The access steps had not been constructed on the entry and exit doorway of the welfare unit.
- An uneven quadrilateral shaped grill was placed outside of the unit with one edge aligned with the centre of the doorway.
- The part-complete welfare units were not locked.
- The risk assessment does not identify the risk and controls to be implemented for commissioning the welfare units after installation.
- The activity plan didn't identify person(s) responsible for the unit installation and commissioning

Further Information:

For further information contact the National Health & Safety team on NH&ST@highwaysengland.co.uk

Actions:

- Risk Assessment to cover the installation and commissioning of welfare facilities, with specific reference made to tasks being assigned to designated people.
- Consider locking and displaying signage on welfare units which are not ready for use.
- Site inspections to pick up the condition and access - egress of welfare facilities.
- Briefings to include hazard spotting and 'don't walk by rules' to encourage the reporting of defects with welfare facilities and across the site.