highways england

INFORMATION

Safety Alert

People Plant Interface

8 January 2020

The following pages of this safety alert were issued by Highways England's supply chain partner:

Huyton Asphalt

Safety Alert

People Plant Interface

Accident Description:

At 0830 hrs on 9th December 2019, during a planned maintenance operation of sweeping and trimming bushes & shrubs on the verge, from the hard shoulder. This was protected by an impact protection vehicle (IPV) in accordance with Chapter 8 along with accredited personnel.

During this operation, the IPV slowly encroached within the work area and came into contact with a tree-clearing vehicle causing injury to two operatives. These work activities were being carried out to allow safe use of the hard shoulder for the travelling public for planned surfacing works on night shift.

Working on behalf of

highways england

Collaborating with

MARTIN

Immediate cause

Struck by a moving vehicle when the IPV encroached into the work area causing two injured personnel due to lapse of a concentration of the driver.

Contributing factors:

i. The IPV had no motion sensors fitted.
ii. There was no dash-cam fitted.
iii. The communications between the two vehicles was insufficient.
iv. There was a lack of awareness of the IPV location within the work force.
v. Complacency (behaviour & culture).
vi. LANTRA IPV training not adhered too.
vii. Maintenance schedule on the strategic road network.
viii. Had there be a full closure available, these traffic management arrangements would not have been necessary.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR SAFE ZONES?

Actions:

- A full investigation review was carried out at Director Level.
- A site wide safety stand down was undertaken to raise awareness and H&S behaviours.
- Induction & Permit reviewed to identify the method of communication and segregation during similar operations.
- Review Risk/No Risk zones and maintaining an exclusion area 75m +/- (25m) as per LANTRA guidance.
- Safe methodology to ensure no personnel works between the IPV and rear of any other vehicle (where possible).
- Traffic Management plans to identify high-risk areas and segregation distances as per LANTRA guidance.
- **If unsure STOP works immediately and ask.**

Lessons Learnt:

1. Immediate Terms (completed)
    a. Review operations of this nature.
    b. Ensure an adequate communication system in place between the IPV and the work force prior to moving any vehicles at any time.

2. Medium Term (implementation date 8 weeks)
    a. Development of safety technology initiatives of proximity alarms and communications devices.

3. Long Term (on-going)
    a. Further develop new safety technology for trial and implementations for IPV's, to be shared as best practice to the wider community.

If you have any enquiries about this safely alert information, please contact highways@huyton-asphalt.co.uk

Harm Avoidance