

# ◀ HEALTH & SAFETY ALERT ▶



## Crush Injury Caused by Dropped Load

### What happened?

Road plates were moved using an excavator during a drainage laying operation. The last road plate moved was vertically positioned using the safety claw of the quick hitch mechanism; unfortunately an operative was standing in the exclusion zone when the plate slipped and crushed the operative's foot, resulting in the amputation of his toes.

It was found that the road plate was not lifted using the defined lifting point and a drop chain.



### Immediate Actions:

The leadership team initiated a safety stand down after the incident. All the workers were reminded about the correct use of plant and equipment.

### Recommendations:

- Never enter into the exclusion zone around operational plant
- There **must** be a lift plan in place for any lifting operations
- Correct lifting mechanisms and methods **must** be used at all times
- Banksman to be used for people/plant interface
- The safety claw of the quick hitch mechanism **must not** be used for lifting
- If unsure about the correct lifting equipment, ask for advice from a competent person
- Never exceed the operating limits of any piece of lifting equipment

