

Trip & fall resulting in fractured knee

Background

A plant operator, working on the M6 J2 – J4 Smart Motorway project suffered a fractured knee when they tripped and fell



The injured person (IP) was doing pre-use checks on the excavator at the start of work and tripped on a part of a temporary sign frame protruding from the ground.

As the IP fell they struck their knee against the blade of the excavator, as a result they shattered their knee cap.

Key considerations:

Slips trips and falls represent a large percentage of work related injuries and the following should be considered when planning and carrying out works:

- Has the area been checked for obstructions prior to starting work?
- Has all equipment and waste material been taken away or disposed of at the end of the activity?
- Are areas cleared of debris prior to parking up plant at the end of shifts?
- Are there facilities to dispose of damaged items and waste materials?
- Can the area be cleared, levelled or sterilised to remove trip hazards?