

Safety Alert

Use of compact rollers

21st May 2019

Background information

In April 2019 on schemes across the Smart Motorway Programme, there were three incidents involving narrow (800mm) ride-on twin drum rollers overturning.

Fortunately no one has been seriously hurt as only one incident resulted in a Minor Injury where the operator sustained grazes to their arm.

Investigation Findings

Following these incidents all of the Principal Contractors have reviewed their process for selection and use of plant, particularly in relation to the use of narrow ride on rollers.

Actions taken by Principal Contractors include;

- Use of compact plant requires specific assessment, due to an inherent lack of stability
- Use of ride on rollers less than 1.2m wide should be avoided and substituted for remote controlled Wacker plates, remote controlled rollers or pedestrian operated rollers.
- If rollers less than 1.2m wide are required this must be approved by the Project Director following clear justification through a review of the activity and assessment of the risk to health and safety.



Action

To ensure the risk to safety, arising from the use of compact rollers, is being properly managed, you may want to:

- Identify where compact rollers are used and review why they are being used.
- Consider use of alternatives such as remote controlled Wacker plates or remote controlled rollers.
- Consider using compact rollers by exception.
- Only allow use of compact rollers, if authorised by the Senior Project Manager or Director after it has been reviewed and risk assessed.