



Safety Alert

Taper Strike Resulting in RIDDOR injury to Traffic Management Operative

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

Kier working on M20 Junction's 3-5

SHE ALERT

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Department
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Taper Strike Resulting in RIDDOR injury to TM Operative

On Tuesday 3rd September, a member of the M20 traffic management team were installing a lead-in taper for a lane 1-2 closure (London bound) when a HGV struck the TM equipment causing several cones to be projected across the closed lanes into one of the operatives resulting in an injury.

The TM team had installed chapter 8 advance warning signage prior to the closure. Once the correct traffic count was observed, the TM foreman and TCSO gave the approval for the TM team to proceed with installation.

The TM crew consisted of five experienced operatives.

Following the installation of approximately 120m of the taper, the team were working on extending the taper into LBS 2 when a HGV approached. The HGV was blocked from moving into LBS 3 due to another HGV being in that lane. On seeing the HGV approaching, the IP realised that it was going to strike the taper and so retreated towards the Varioguard and a place of relative safety.

The HGV struck the final few cones in the taper causing them to be projected into the safety zone. One of the cone bases struck the IP injuring his lower right leg / ankle. The IP was taken to Maidstone A&E for treatment where a fracture to the right ankle was diagnosed.