

# Safety Alert

## Finger trapped in swivel shackle resulting in fracture

30 October 2019

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

**AECOM**

## SAFETY ALERT

## Learning From Incidents

<b>Injury Type:</b> Fracture	Left index finger	<b>Date:</b> 28/10/2019	Reportable over 7 days
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### What Happened

On the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019 at approximately 10:35 hrs the Lower Thames Crossing GI team at Package A, working on the south side of the Thames on open agricultural land, were removing 66mm (outer diameter) rods from borehole location BH01003 as part of the in situ standard penetration tests.

In order to remove the rods far enough from ground level, the Lead Driller lowers the winch line, hook and swivel shackle down to the second man, who then screws the swivel in to the rod. The rod is then winched between 1.5 – 3 metres and unscrewed from the connecting rod beneath.

At the time of the incident all the connections were made, however the second man (IP) was holding the swivel (should be holding below the swivel) with his left-hand index finger between the hook and swivel shackle. The Lead Driller operated the winch line to take in slack and subsequently trapped the IP's finger in the process causing a significant fracture. The IP was taken to A&E immediately following an onsite first aid assessment. As a result of the injury the IP required surgery whereby screws, and wires were placed in to the bone in his finger.

The operation did not require the IP to have his finger between the hook and shackle at any time during this the task. The act was a result of a lapse in concentration during a repetitive task.

### Going Forward (All Packages)

All swivel shackles are to be sprayed red with “**hands off red**” message identified in RAMS and visuals on drilling rigs.

All relevant RAMS are to include clear communications between the Lead Driller and Second Man. The Second Man must call “**clear**” to confirm hands and fingers are not touching any lifting equipment or accessories prior to any operating of the winch. The RAMS update must be recommunicated and re-signed by all drilling teams.

**Safe Behaviors = Safe Performance**

Contact your SH&E Manager with questions or comments on this Lessons Learnt Summary.

## SAFETY ALERT

## Learning From Incidents

All packages will initiate behavioural safety “**safe hands campaign**” deliver to drillers on a weekly basis. The “**safe hands campaign**” material and literature will be shared across the AECOM projects for delivery to all drilling teams.



### Last Minute Risk Assessment – Take 5

Before beginning any activity/task/job, after a near miss, any unusual circumstance

**ASSESS** the risk!  
What could go wrong?  
What is the worst thing that could happen?

**Analyze** how to reduce the risk!  
Do I have the necessary training, knowledge, tools and PPE to do this job properly?

**ACT** to ensure loss free operations!  
Take necessary action to ensure the job is done properly!  
Follow written procedures! Ask for assistance, if needed!

**DO NOT PROCEED UNLESS ALL RISKS HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED**

## HANDS OFF RED!



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