



Safety Alert

Unsafe Removal of Excavator Bucket

24 January 2020

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

Costain and Skanska

Sector	Transport	Framework / Contract	HS2 Enabling Works Contract, South
Date & Time of Incident	Monday, 20 January 2020 08:30	Incident Type	HPE
Location of Incident	Euston Area	Report Completed by	Jarrad Williams, SHE Manager

1. Outline of Incident

A plant operative was observed to have not followed a safe system of work, whilst removing the bucket of a 1.5t excavator. With the dipper arm raised and with the bucket approximately 1 metre from the ground, the operative proceeded to remove the locating pin for the bucket, as the pin was removed the bucket fell freely to the ground, causing the machine operator to move clear. The operative was then observed to operate the controls of the excavator, whilst outside of the cab (stood on the ground). No injuries were sustained.

2. Photographs



Picture 1.

Reconstruction:
Location of the dipper arm, when the locking pins were removed.
Approximate height that the bucket fell was 1m



Picture 2.

Reconstruction:
Detailing how the operative manoeuvred the dipper arm from outside the cab.

3. Immediate Actions Taken(Note: Bracing installed post incident)

Operation stopped and investigation commenced

Any Regulatory Involvement?	No
Has the incident been recorded on Capture?	Yes
Name(s) of Investigation Team	Jarrad Williams (SHE Manager), Luke Rees (Work Package Manager),
Distribution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group SHE Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group SHE Ops Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sector Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contract Leader

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