



Safety Alert

Drilling Contractor - Lost Time Injury

31 March 2021

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

Costain Jacobs JV

RDPN WHSE

Incident Alert Information



Jacobs

Sector	Highways - Transportation	Framework / Contract	RDP North – Scotswood to North Brunton
Date & Time of Incident	17 February 2021	Incident Type	LTI
Location of Incident	A1 Jct 77	Alert Completed by	RDPN SHE Team

1. Outline of Incident

On the 17 February 2021 at 4am, a drilling contractor was undertaking a drilling operation within the central reservation of the A1 at Junction 77. At the time of the incident a piling operative/spanner man (IP) was removing casings from the drilling rig. Following the removal of the casing, the IP reported that they incurred an injury to their back to the frontline supervisor. The IP attended hospital and was diagnosed with a torn latissimus dorsi and was off work for two days.

Investigation findings:

- It is accepted industry practice for an operative to handle casings.
- The risks associated with lifting, handling and carrying of the casings were not identified in the risk assessment.
- The IP had not received suitable manual handling training.

2. Photographs



Photo of the drilling rig

Photo not taken at the time of incident



Photo of the casings

2m in length, 110mm diameter and 50kg in weight

3. Lessons Learnt

- Manual handling risks associated with the casings were overlooked by the RAMS author as well as not identified during the RAMS review process.
- Industry wide lessons learnt include investigating if design changes or machine / equipment changes / additions can be introduced to reduce the manual handling. Drilling contractor are to trial mechanical grab arms at their depot in a safe controlled environment to see if there is a further solution to the reduction of manual handling.



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