



Safety Alert

Safe Use of the Bitumen Boiler

25 May 2022

The following page of this safety alert was issued by:

USL

NHa297

If you have any queries about this safety alert information announcement or any other safety announcement then please contact HealthSafety&Wellbeingteam@nationalhighways.co.uk

**home safe
and well**



HEALTH & SAFETY BULLETIN

17-May-22

Safe Use of the Bitumen Boiler

Reasons for this Health & Safety Alert

On the 14th May 2022 at approximately 17:30, whilst mixing some Britdex FE in one of our Bitumen boilers on site at the M2 (Junction 5-6 Southbound closure), some material splashed out the top of the boiler and landed on a USL Ekspan operative's right hand and wrist, causing burns which required medical attention.

The boiler had been loaded with large pieces of Britdex FE which were preventing the lid from fully closing. This allowed a gap in which the hot material splashed out whilst mixing.

Kevlar Gloves and Sleeves were not worn, allowing the material to cause burns to the operative's hand and wrist.

This was an avoidable incident and one in which we must learn from.



Lessons Learnt

Never add material beyond the top of the boiler. This is to ensure that the lid can fully close.

**Always ensure that the lid is locked into position when in use.
(As shown in the picture)**

Always wear Kevlar gloves and Kevlar lower arm sleeves when working with any hot binder material, as per USL Ekspan's task specific Risk Assessments and Method Statements.



REMEMBER – Your SAFETY, HEALTH & WELLBEING is important to USL