



Safety Alert

Safe Installation of Debris Screen

30 Sept 2022

The following pages of this safety alert were issued by:

Morgan Sindall

Safe installation of debris screen

A one day Lost Time Injury (LTI) occurred on the A11 Concrete Road Framework Project. During the installation of debris screen (installed to protect debris from entering the live carriageway) on a night shift, the Injured Person (IP) stepped down off a kentledge block, as he stepped down, his leg made contact with an existing crash barrier post resulting in a laceration to his lower leg. The IP received first aid to dress the cut and was taken to A&E where he received stitches to the wound.

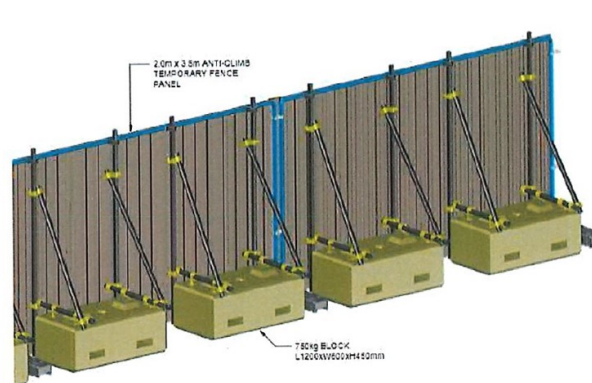
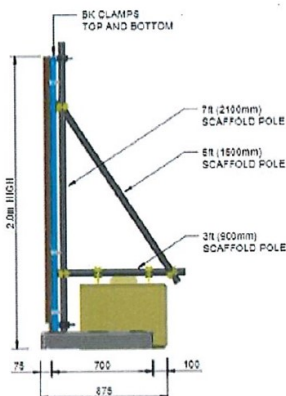
Contributing factors

- Inadequate lighting, the available tower lights were not being used as it was concerned they may dazzle the passing motorists
- The steel posts were left in situ following barrier removal due to size constraints of the barrier pulling equipment working adjacent to the live carriageway
- Risk Assessment Method Statements (RAMS) did not contain adequate detail for the correct method of installing or dismantling the debris screen
- Inadequate assessment of the safest way to access and egress the concrete blocks
- Failure of the Point of Work Risk Assessment (POWRA) to identify the crash barrier posts as a hazard
- Failure to demarcate hazard.

Safe installation of debris screen

- Ensure that a lift plan is in place. Unload deliveries of materials using a forklift, operated by a competent person
- Use forklift or rubber duck to lift 750kg blocks into position, utilise slots within block for forks – forks must approach 'head on'
- Carefully attach scaffolding frame to blocks
- Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWP) or platform to be used to reach any clamps required from the 'construction site' side of the panel. A step-up must be used when accessing from the bloc (live traffic) side
- Ensure that the manoeuvring of the heras panels is undertaken in a slow and cautious manner with no risk of the heras panel fouling the live carriageway
- Attach heras fencing to scaffolding using clamps / cable ties as per the Temporary Work Design (TWD)
- Sign off required by Temporary Works Supervisor (TWS) and Temporary works coordinator (TWC).

Sketch to the right details the debris screen which was being installed when the accident occurred.



This advice should be used, where the above is applicable, and the information discussed with your team highlighting the following points:

- Ensure that a Safe Systems of Work (SSOW) is in place and is adequate for the task - If in doubt stop
- Adequate lighting must be available - If considered inappropriate - stop, contact your supervisor and agree a suitable alternative
- A rigorous POWRA must be undertaken to identify all hazards prior to any works starting and briefed to the team.

SHEQ Alert date: 09/2022

Display until: 31/12/2022

Distribution: Morgan Sindall x Supply Chain x Plant Hire Desk x Morgan Sindall Group

Communication: Toolbox talks / briefings x Noticeboards x SHEQ update x

Everyone has the right to be

100% Safe