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### What happened?

While directing plant during construction activities, an operative's feet became trapped between the tracks of a 5 tonne rubber tracked excavator and kerb. This resulted in fractured bones in one foot and a fractured ankle on the other.

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### How?

The IP had left the excavator to check on the agreed road crossing point, with the knowledge that the excavator was going to turn through 90 degrees on its tracks in preparation for crossing the road.

The plant operator assumed that the IP had left the area and did not expect the IP to be in the vicinity of the equipment so began his manoeuvre. The IP had positioned himself as per below image, the excavator turned, resulting in the above injuries being sustained.



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### Lessons Learned

- There needs to be clear communication between the Operator and the Banksman/Vehicle Marshaller, and both must fully understand the plan of action.
- Only trained Banksmen/Vehicle Marshalls should be used to direct plant (there is now a CPCS course (A73) available for Vehicle Marshalls).
- Banksmen/Vehicle Marshalls should be easily identifiable – the use of different colours of vests or hats is an easy way to achieve this.
- Plant Operators should always check the safety zone is clear before movement commences.
- The use of technology should be considered where there is a close man machine interface.