

# Construction and Maintenance Health, Safety and Wellbeing Briefing December 2017

## Hub roadworks vehicle incursions campaign January 2018



#### **Highways England Safety Alerts.**

- HFi035 Overturned ride on roller
- HEi036 Re-occurring HIPO Machinery seat belt misuse.

This and previous alerts are available through the following link:

http://www.highwayssafetyhub.com/alerts.htm

Industry has identified that vehicle incursions in to work areas is one of the highest risks to road workers safety. 250 incursions are continually reported between operations and major project directorates on the strategic road network, the true figure could be much higher as there is a perception that incursions are normal and

accepted as part of the job. Unfortunately we know only too well the devastating consequences of vehicles entering works and colliding with people and / or our works vehicles. An incursion is defined as 'an intentional or unintentional unauthorised entry into temporary traffic management, by all or part of a vehicle

being driven by members of the public or emergency services'.

The hubs latest campaign focuses on the issue and contains a selection of resources including toolbox talks, presentations, videos, and posters. <a href="http://www.highwayssafetyhub.com/roadworks-vehicle-incursions-2018.html">http://www.highwayssafetyhub.com/roadworks-vehicle-incursions-2018.html</a>

Send your best practice, alerts and news to <a href="mailto:philip.farrar@highwaysengland.co.uk">philip.farrar@highwaysengland.co.uk</a>

#### Plant people interface – new visual standards

Skanska recognise that plant-people interface is one of the construction industry's top fatal risks. Over the last 5 repeating years (2011-2016) there were 217 fatal incidents in the UK construction industry. Twenty one of these injuries 10% were due to workers being struck by moving vehicles/ plant (Source HSE RIDDOR data). There were many more major injuries and near misses during the same period involving plant-people interface. To help eliminate incidents on Skanska UK projects Skanska have developed a detailed set of visual standards, a set of tool box talks and a supporting animation. These clearly explain information already contained within the health and safety management system concerning the control of plant-people interface.

The new visual standards build on existing procedures and guidance covering restricted zones for excavators and have been extended to cover a range of different plant. The standards now include:

- Excavators
- Forward tipping dumpers
- Large articulated dump trucks
- Shovel loader
- Dozer
- Small sit on roller
- Large roller
- CFA piling rigs
- Rotary piling rigs
- Ground engineering rigs

Each standard includes simple instructions on how to approach plant safety using the established "thumbs up" method.



The animation is available on YouTube at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqG0zHbpKDs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqG0zHbpKDs</a>

# Your safety - winter weather advice

As we brace ourselves for a bit of a chill over this next few days, please stay safe and keep updated on the weather where you are. Snow has fallen over much of the UK, particularly, in the West Midlands and the North West - some areas have become icy. As a result, we have issued a Severe Weather Alert to our road users. They are advised to take extra care when travelling, to allow plenty of extra time to complete any journey and to consider whether a journey is absolutely necessary before setting out; this message also applies to you.

Please speak to your manager if you are affected by the weather and require specific arrangements. If you are working from home, please stay warm and check in with your manager so they know you are well. This is also a good opportunity to familiarise yourself with local business continuity plans; they are in place in times of emergency, or periods such as this, when usual working arrangements may be affected. Every area of our business will have one and will include helpful details on emergency processes and arrangements. Safety critical operations teams will also specific arrangements additional to this.

Here is some further useful information you should know:

- You can call 0800 092 2325 our staff information line to find out if your office is closed or for updates on incidents - the number is printed on your work identification pass.
- Up-to-date information on road conditions on England's motorways and major trunk roads is available on our website at http://www.trafficengland.com or by calling the customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.
- For information on weather conditions, also visit the Met Office website www. metoffice.gov.uk and tune into local radio.

#### CITB Vision 2020

The Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) has today revealed its bold new strategy and proposals for its future offer – Vision 2020: The Future CITB.

These will create the strategic, forward-looking and agile skills body that the industry is seeking. Plans to modernise and reinvigorate CITB follow the Government's ITB Review and the triennial Consensus process. While construction voted in favour of continuing the industry levy, it also called for significant reform. These calls reflected industry's views of CITB's past performance but were also driven by its need for a skills body that would help it to meet major challenges such as Brexit, productivity and future skills.

Vision 2020: The Future CITB is a strategy that will shape CITB over the next three years into a simpler, more streamlined organisation. It will become a commissioner of outcomes that delivers the industry's core priorities. The Future CITB will use Levy money to ensure a sustainable training and development market, only intervening to provide a service where it is unavailable on the market, or not to the quality level that is sought. Sarah Beale, Chief Executive of CITB, says: "Construction needs to modernise and CITB is no exception. We accept the challenges laid down by industry and Government and we will deliver a future-fit training body by adapting and updating our business model.

"Some really tough decisions could be made under these proposals but I'm confident in our commitment to becoming a more representative, accountable and reliable 'levy in, skills out' organisation. We now have a clearly defined path, and we see a bright future for a modern, engaged CITB. We look forward to working with our industry and Government to build a better Britain."

CITB's three main priorities remain as Careers, Standards and Qualifications and Training and Development. The new organisation will have the following approach to delivering them:

Evidence – Develop a strong evidence base through research and market intelligence to determine the industry's current and future skills needs, the supply of training and what interventions CITB needs to make.

Influence – Work with industry, influencing skills funding, vocational training, government policies and provisions.

Funding - Use employer funds to support construction, with employers addressing their skills needs.

To become more accountable, CITB has developed its Agenda for Change, a six-point set of outcomes for 2018 and beyond. It includes commitments to be more relevant, representative and responsive to industry's needs, from SMEs to major contractors. CITB has also pledged to adapt its governance bodies so that they accurately reflect and represent the modern construction industry.

The process starts today, by sharing Vision 2020: The Future CITB with colleagues at an internal briefing. Communication, information and support for employees will continue throughout this programme.

Vision 2020: The Future CITB sets out a significant operational redesign needed to ensure CITB realises its vision and commitment to become a tightly focused, strategic body. CITB will target its expertise and the industry's resources to do fewer things but do them better. This includes proposals to exit direct delivery of training through the National Construction College and cease services such as administering the card schemes.

The proposed plan includes a move for the organisation's Head Office from Bircham Newton, Norfolk, with Peterborough earmarked as a likely new base – supported by the infrastructure and access afforded by a modern, connected city. In addition, there will be small co-located offices in London, Scotland and Wales to help deliver sector partnerships. Around two-thirds of the workforce will remain mobile in order to be closer to CITB's customers.

https://www.citb.co.uk/about-us/our-vision-strategy/future-citb-vision-2020/

## Plant and equipment new guidance – safe use of suction/vacuum excavators

The Suction and Vacuum Excavator (SAVE) special Interest Group has launched a Good Practice Guide for the Safe Use of Suction/ Vacuum Excavators. The comprehensive 84 page publication is available to download for free from the Construction \plant-hire Association (CPA) website at www.cpa.uk.net/savepublications Suction/Vacuum Excavators have been commonplace in the construction and utilities sector in recent years to carry out excavations around buried services and other sensitive areas. but in July 2015, a tragic accident resulted in the death of an operator of a truck-mounted unit. This highlighted the need to define common operational standards and the management of Suction and Vacuum Excavator operations. The SAVE Special Interest Group was subsequently formed with the intention of establishing common operational standards for use with Suction/Vacuum Excavators. Managed by CPA, it comprises representatives from owners, users, manufacturers and clients, as well as the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) and CITB. with the Group's first task being the production of a Good Practice Guide for the safe use of these types of equipment.

Topics covered in the Good Practice Guide include:

- Personnel, training and certification.
- Management of the operation and the selection of machines.
- Travelling to and from sites, arrival and setting up.
- Carrying out excavation activity including the use of ground engaging tools.
- Dealing with blockages and other emergency procedures.
- Leaving sites and movement of waste requirements.

The publication provides specific recommendations around lone working, the use of a second operator and other supporting staff, and information relating to contaminated ground containing radioactive waste. Other additions to the guidance include clean-up procedures that should be followed when hazardous materials – particularly asbestos based materials – are drawn into a machine. Further annex sections relay additional information on areas such as daily and weekly checks, procedures for working at height, the use of red diesel on the public highway and the transporting of waste.

As with all CPA-managed Good Practice Guides, the publication aims to educate owners, operators, hirers, contractors, clients, trainers and maintenance staff on the nature, operational practices and safe working requirements of these types of equipment. The SAVE Special Interest Group's work on producing the safe use guidance has been recognised by the HSE

as part of the 'Helping Great Britain Work Well' Initiative that demonstrates how sectors can act together to collectively promote health and safety issues. The Special Interest Group's next task is to produce a comprehensive supplementary publication on the handling and dealing of a wide range of hazardous materials that are frequently encountered by Suction/Vacuum Excavation operations.

Pat Burke, managing Director of Force One Limited and Chair of the SAVE Special Interest Group commented: "Following the tragic accident, it was heartening that owners, hirers, contractors, clients and the HSE came together to form the Special Interest Group and collectively aim to raise safety standards through this Good Practice Guide. I thank the group for their time, energy and commitment in producing this publication, which is the first of a number that we aim to devise."

"To endorse our commitment to relaying the safety message for the safe use of Suction/ Vacuum Excavators, we've allowed the publication to be available free of charge. I encourage all those involved with Suction/ Vacuum Excavator operations to note and follow our recommendations, he continued. Please Note: Technical enquiries on the production and content of the guidance should be addressed to Peter Brown, CPA, peter@cpa.uk.net

https://www.cpa.uk.net/suction-and-vacuum-excavator-interest-goup-save/

# CD283 - Consultation on implementing new and revised Workplace Exposure Limits

As a reminder from the November edition the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is consulting on the implementation of new and revised Indicative Occupational Exposure Limit Values (IOELVs) for thirty-one chemical substances to help protect workers from the ill-health effects of exposure to hazardous substances in the workplace. The consultative document sets out HSE's proposals for establishing workplace exposure limits for the substances listed in the 4th Indicative Occupational Exposure Limit Values (IOELVs) Directive 2017/164/EU, in order to implement it in Great Britain.

Consultation began on 10 November 2017 and ends on 2 February 2018.

View the consultative document PDF.

Our preferred method for receiving comments is via the online questionnaire as this is the most effective way for us to fully consider and analyse responses.

You can also respond by downloading the CD283 Word form emailing it to IOELVconsultation2017@hse.gov.uk.

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