

Network Rail Maintenance Staff Incident - Member of Staff Hit Above Eye by a Hookswitch Pole

Incident Details

Date: 11/11/2015

Time: 04:45

Location: Waterloo

Task: Opening hookswitch

Employee: NR Clapham maintenance

Equipment Involved: Hookswitch pole

Injuries Sustained: Minor injury to underneath eyebrow/graze

Incident Classification: No loss time



Immediate and Underlying Causes

Immediate Cause:

Member of Staff hit above eye by hookswitch pole

Underlying Causes:

**Staff walking too close to each other
Hookswitch pole carried at shoulder height**

Eye protection not worn

Although there was no major injury reported in this incident, the staff member concerned was extremely fortunate that he was only grazed below the eyebrow and did not suffer life changing injuries

- 2 members of staff walking to site to operate a hookswitch
- Member of staff carrying hookswitch pole turns around
- Hookswitch pole strikes IP underneath right eyebrow, but above the eye
- First aid given and IP does not require Hospital treatment or time off
- Eye protection not being worn

