



Infrastructure Projects Southern Home Safe

The Southern Region's Weekly Safety Update

11 May 2016

Torn ligaments on bridge inspection

During works at Avon and Stour, an operative injured his knee while inspecting the bridge from scaffold. The individual was manoeuvring around the girders of the bridge when a muscle in his right leg began causing him pain. He was taken to hospital where it was confirmed he had torn ligaments at the back of his knee.

Lessons learnt...

Additional care should be taken when moving around restricted areas, paying particular attention to obstacles that have the potential to cause harm.

A safer solution

We recently reported that an operative at Dover was removing a tremi pipe from a concrete pile when he trapped his finger between the cage and the tremi line. Unfortunately, the operative suffered a fractured finger as a result.

Following the incident, a tool was created by the team that means the movement of the hopper and concrete shoot is no longer carried out by the hands of the operators. The metal hook can be seen in action below.



Click on the shield above to access our website

Mental Health Awareness Week

Mental Health Awareness Week runs from Monday 16 - Friday 22 May and the focus this year is relationships.

Relationships are vital for our health and wellbeing and are just as important as better established lifestyle factors, such as eating well and exercising more. [Read more here.](#)

You can find literature for your sites and more information here. Why not hold a toolbox talk around the subject next week?

Work pressure survey

ISLG (Infrastructure Safety Liaison Group) have released a survey to find out what type of pressures our people face when carrying out work and what impact it has on their job.

To find out more about the survey and take part, [click here](#).



Contact us: shield@networkrail.co.uk

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Dangerous load

A Close Call was raised at Waterloo International Terminal after three Bass Wagons were incorrectly loaded. If the doors had been opened on the adjacent end, there was the potential for sleepers to fall onto the operatives unloading the wagon. *You can read the [full bulletin here](#).*



Remember...

- Sleepers should be loaded either in an orderly manner with timber dunnage separating each tier, or in a pyramid without timber dunnage.
- The load must not rest against the wagon doors.
- The loading of Bass type wagons must be supervised by a certified and competent person.

Builders merchants fined £2m for death of customer

A builders' merchant has been fined £2m after a customer was killed at its yard in Milton Keynes. Mark Pointer died after being crushed by a company vehicle at Travis Perkins Trading Company Limited in Old Wolverton in November 2012.

Mr Pointer was loading planks onto the roof rack of his Land Rover, when he fell backwards after it appeared one of the cargo straps he was using snapped. He fell to the ground where he was run over by a company vehicle, sustaining fatal crushing injuries. Milton Keynes Council, who investigated the case, commented that the company had 'failed to ensure loading and unloading activities were undertaken in a safe manner in a safe area'. *You can read the [full article here](#).*

Remember...

Always risk assess loading and unloading activities on site. Where possible, avoid working at height and make sure appropriate safety measures are in place.

**If you would like a colleague to receive Home Safe,
please contact Daisy.Read@networkrail.co.uk**

Benefits of a tidy site

A team working at Bellingham had completed work ahead of schedule, so decided to utilise the time and machinery they had available to clear a large amount of rail that had been left trackside.

Over 23 tonnes of material was cleared in around two hours. Whilst this decision was made because it made good use of available possession time, a number of additional benefits were also achieved.

Not only did this work improve the aesthetics of the area for local residents and travelling customers, the team have also removed hazards that had the potential to cause slips, trips and falls. Furthermore, over £4000 was generated in scrap metal rebates, that will get returned directly back into the maintenance of infrastructure.

The team are now hoping to remove a further 60 tonnes that had previously been left, to be reinvested in projects.

You can read the [full article here](#).



With thanks to

