

IMDM OUTER

Slip Whilst Removing Fishplate Bolts: Neck Injury

Incident.

On 4th of December 2016 at 01.30 hrs on the BAE1 at 82m 35ch, at Salisbury Tunnel Junction, a P/Way Operative from Salisbury depot sustained a neck injury whilst undoing a Fishplate bolt. Weather conditions were extremely cold at the time.

The injured party (IP) was part of an 8 man team carrying out track maintenance and was tasked with removing a Fishplate. As he applied pressure the spanner slipped off the nut causing the IP to fall backwards.

IP was caught by a team member stopping him from falling to the ground.

The team were working with head lights on their helmets and K9 rechargeable lights.

The IP was wearing serviceable safety footwear and was using the correct tools for the task.

The IP has been referred to Network Rail 'Rehabworks' for physiotherapy type support by his Section Manager.



Lessons Learnt

1. Make sure when using handheld tools they are correctly and firmly fitted to the component being worked on.
2. When stood on ballast removing or replacing components where some pressure needs to be applied ensure that a firm footing is established and avoid standing on sleepers.
3. When working during inclement weather conditions;
 - take that little extra time to clear your work area of any potential slip hazards.
 - Keep warm to minimise risks of pulled muscles