

## IMDM INNER

Title: Stressing Kit fluid injury: IP sprayed in face with hydraulic fluid.

### Incident

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2018 at 14:25 hrs at Woking Junction up sidings, a Network Rail Team Leader was sprayed on the side of the face by excess hydraulic fluid from a stressing kit ram. The IP was attending to a broken Insulated Block Joint (IBJ); the work involved the use of a stressing kit to prevent movement of the rail.

Following the replacement of the IBJ, the stressing kit had hydraulic pressure released prior to the stressing ram pipes being removed. The IP was standing next to the equipment as the pipes were taken off; he had just removed his safety glasses because they had steamed up due to both the hot weather and the work that he had been involved in.

Another member of the team removed the pipe from the ram and a small amount of excess fluid contained within the pipe flicked up and sprayed the Team Leader on the side of the face close to his left eye.

Immediate first aid was administered and eye wash was used to cleanse the eye area.



### Lessons Learnt

1. After use of the stressing Kit make sure the power pack is stopped, pressure released and hoses purged before connecting or disconnecting the puller unit.
2. Warn and clear the area of other people in the vicinity of the activity.
3. Safety glasses must be worn at all times. If glasses need to be removed to be cleaned, first move away from any work which is taking place
4. Make sure a first aid kit is always on site and eye wash facilities are included.

