

Safety Bulletin

A Serious Accident has occurred



Issued to: All line managers and staff in DC traction areas, Wessex Route.

Reference: RIDDOR Incident

Date of Issue: 10/11/2020

Location: Andover Up Siding/Yard, BAE1 66m 20c
Wessex Route

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Overview

On Wednesday 4th November 2020, a member of staff was setting up a worksite in preparation to fix a rail defect. With the assistance of another team member the Injured Person (IP) had collected the Stressing Saddle from the vehicle and proceeded to carry it, to the rail trolley to be transported to the site of work. The team thought about the requirement for manual handling and parked their vehicle as close as possible to reduce the carrying distance.

On stepping over a rail, the IP missed his footing catching the rail and falling forward. Unable to stop the fall, the IP struck his left leg on the rail, but the right side of his chest landed on a screw spike.

Initial assessment and First Aid were given on site, but a decision was made to transport the IP to hospital for a check-up. Whilst X-ray's and scans identified no breaks or internal damage, the bruising to the chest area was significant and the IP was kept in hospital for four days followed by a significant period of sick leave to fully recover.

Discussion Points:

- How you assess the worksite to identify potential hazards that could cause an incident and/or injury.
- Being aware of worksite hazards and taking extra caution when moving heavy equipment.
- Being aware that even the most innocuous fall could result in potentially serious injury that should not be overlooked or dismissed. A hospital check-up should always be considered.