

Health & Safety Briefing Note

Incident Learning - Lifting Operations

HSBN 0105
(September 2019)



Standing under any load being lifted is strictly forbidden at Thames Water



Introduction

Lifting operations are carried out daily across Thames Water sites by our employees and contracting partners working on our behalf. It is important that lifting operations are safely managed with a lifting plan in place, in date lifting equipment and accessories and competent people carrying out the lifting operation. Above all no-one should ever feel the need to stand beneath any load being lifted.



What happened?

A miner was working at the bottom of a 3.5-metre-deep x 2 metre square shaft waiting for the empty skip bucket weighing 80Kg to be lowered to him via a 110-volt 1 ton electrically operated winch, when the bucket became detached from the winch and fell, striking the IP on the right shoulder and upper arm causing a serious specified injury to the IP's shoulder.



Action required

- When carrying out lifting operations the shaft **must be evacuated** by all persons before a lifting operation proceeds
- A Lift plan **must** be in place. It must be completed by a competent person and briefed to **all those involved** in the task.
- An **exclusion zone** must be set up around the lifting site and supervised by competent persons to **prevent access** into the exclusion zone by colleagues and members of the public.
- All lifting equipment and lifting accessories must be visually checked to ensure they have an in-date inspection tag and for any damage before commencing with the lift.
- Check the SWL of the equipment and accessories being used match to what is stipulated in the lift plan to carry out a safe lift.
- The person carrying out the lifting operations **must be trained and competent**.
- Remember, do not put yourself, colleagues, and members of the public in the line of fire when carrying out lifting operations. Always follow the lifting plan and Safe System of Work.
- A **Zero Compromise** approach should always be applied...if there is an issue **have the courage** to stop, speak up and escalate to your manager



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Briefing to all employees

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We the undersigned have been made aware of the contents of this briefing. If we are unable to carry out the work safely, we agree that we must immediately stop work and inform our manager/supervisor.

- Remember, do not put yourself, colleagues, and members of the public in the line of fire when carrying out lifting operations. Always follow the lifting plan and Safe System of Work.
- A **Zero Compromise** approach should always be applied...if there is an issue **have the courage** to stop, speak up and escalate to your manager

Date	Name	Signature

Please continue on another copy for additional employees

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Distribution: All Thames Water Managers

