

SAFETY ALERT



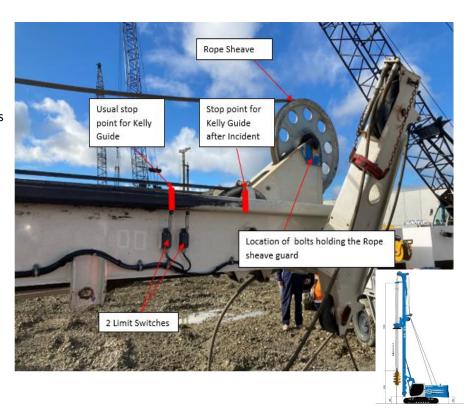
INCIDENT	A1/P1 Near miss
SUBJECT	Rope sheave guard fell from top of drill rig's mast
INCIDENT DATE	19-05-2021
BUSINESS UNIT	Brian Perry Civil Northern Region – Project Lightspeed
RADAR NUMBER	INCID-0045717

WHAT HAPPENED?

A Soilmec SR45 drill rig was carrying out normal piling operations. As the Kelly bar was retracted from the pile the Kelly bar guide passed through the electronic limit switch that cuts out the system. Before the hydraulics could cut out, the Kelly rope crimp and swivel connected with the rope sheave guard, shearing the six bolts retaining the guard. This resulted in the guard coming off the mast and falling to the ground.

PROJECT RISK REVIEW

During the start of the project it was decided to limit the number of people within the immediate vicinity of the drilling operations. An exclusion zone was established around the rig with only the 'fronter' being authorised to be near the rig but still outsite the exclusion zone while the rig was operating.



INTERIM CONTROLS IMPLEMENTED TO PREVENT REOCCURRENCE

- The 3 metre auger used during the time of the incident was replaced with a 2 metre auger to gain an additional metre clearance from the top of the mast.
- Both the Kelly and rotary limit switches were moved 100mm lower down the mast and a 2nd Kelly limit switch was put in place as a failsafe with the consent of the manufacturer. Other rigs were reviewed for set up.





IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR ALL OF US (pre-investigation)

- Staying outside exclusion zones during machine operations eliminates the potential for injury.
- Assess the risks that different attachments might add to normal machine operation.
- Engineering controls might not always be effective in different circumstances and should be questioned when any doubt exists.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Deon Holtzhausen, Senior HSE Advisor - deonh@fcc.co.nz +64 27 279 0643

