

Shared Learning

IP East Midlands Region

Dislocated Elbow - Hucknall

On Sunday 28th August a Baldwin's slinger/signaller at the Station Road Compound in Hucknall sustained a serious injury to his left elbow whilst checking the weight of an 'L' shaped parapet on the back of a flatbed trailer.

Details:

- A 500 tonne telescopic mobile crane was being used to lift parapets onto the newly constructed bridge deck.
- The lift supervisor requested that the slinger (via radio communication) check the weights of the parapets on the back of the flatbed trailer, positioned west of Station Road Bridge, RAC/20A.
- The slinger accessed the bed of the delivery trailer on the northern side to ascertain the weight of the 'L' shaped parapet and relayed weights to Lift Supervisor.
- The Slinger knelt down on the flatbed trailer near to the edge and as he stood up lost his footing and fell to the ground, circa 1.6m.
- The slinger was offered first aid on site and then taken to Queens Medical Centre Hospital, Nottingham where a dislocated and closed fractured left elbow was confirmed.



Shared Learning:



Always use a safety harness when working at height, unless other protection is in place.

- The slinger did not need to access the bed of the delivery trailer.
- Never undertake any job unless you have been trained and assessed as competent.
- Clear communication between the lift supervisor and slinger is essential, the slinger was unsighted.
- Fatigue was not managed effectively, which may have contributed to the accident.

Discussion Points:

- What could have been done differently to avoid this risk? E.g. use a more experienced slinger, delay the shift to ensure sufficient rest, or change the level of supervision?
- How well do the machine operators and slingers on your project communicate?
- Could we have eliminated the need to lift the parapets through SbD?