

Lessons Learnt: Local & Formal Investigations



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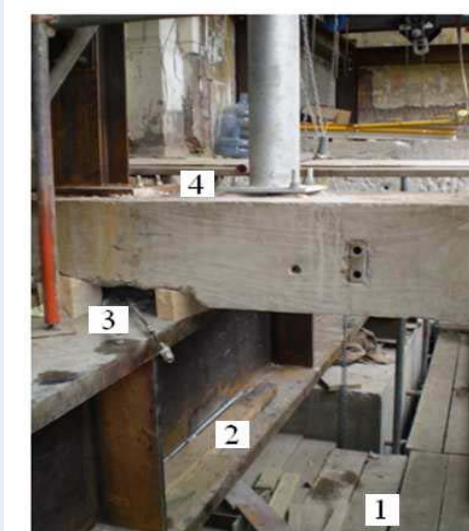
Issue Number: 005

Title: Thameslink Farringdon Project, Dislocated Shoulder

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Picture(s)

Numbers in the adjacent pictures show the walking route taken by the operative



Overview of Event

An operative sustained a dislocated shoulder after he took an unauthorised route within the construction site

The operative had been working on an authorised scaffold undertaking general works, all of which had been undertaken safely and without incident

At the time of the accident, the works had been completed and the operative was in the process of leaving the site as his work and shift had been completed

The operative climbed from the scaffold where he had been working onto a steel beam, then a concrete beam and then a four board wide scaffold deck which gave way and from which he fell less than 2 metres.

The scaffold deck from which the operative fell had been created to guide a concrete pipe, it was not a working platform or pedestrian walking route

Underlying Causes:

There are a number of underlying facts that contributed to the accident: -

- The operative took a short cut and did not use the designated walking route as it was a quicker way to leave the work area
- The operative had been using the correct designated walking route previously
- Whilst the scaffold deck was not an access platform it had not been struck / dismantled after the concrete pump had been removed following the works.

Key Message:

Operatives should be reminded of official walking routes on sites.

All scaffolding not to be used for access should be barriered off and have appropriate signage.

Temporary scaffold decks must be removed when they are no longer required.