

No: IGS 222

## Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

# OHL Snagging risk when using Unimog RRV Mobile Elevating Work Platform (MEWP)

**For the attention of; Project managers, site supervisors, E&P Maintenance Engineers, OLE Section Managers, Machine & Crane Controllers, OTP operators and In Possession Plant Operators (Network Rail Licence holders) and OTP owners.**

**Background:** An incident occurred on the 7/01/10 during remedial de-wirement works at Hackney Downs. A MEWP basket handrail became snagged on a splicing rig; the vehicle was being moved a short distance along the track when it came into contact with the rig. This 'snagging' put a heavy sideways loading on the basket, this resulted in the failure of the basket load cell which is designed primarily for heavy vertical loading. The work was stopped and the arm lowered into the parked position to enable the two members of staff to climb out safely.

OLE Rig snagged here  
when basket was rotated  
90°

**Note:** The MEWP basket safety bolts functioned correctly and retained the basket on the support arm, although no injuries occurred during this incident, it is subject of a Local Investigation.



### Action Required:

**Project managers, site supervisors, OHE E&P Maintenance Engineers and OLE Section Managers** will conduct an auditable (signed for) briefing on the content of this Safety Bulletin with all staff under their control who work with Unimog RRV MEWP.

**Operators, Machine and Crane Controllers** working with elevated MEWPS must, before all movements, assess the situation and take appropriate action to avoid moving the basket or the vehicle if there is any risk of striking or coming into contact with any part of the infrastructure. (For example, before moving off the Operator should ensure that the splicing rig is tied up.)

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