

Appendix A – 3350/165

Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

Re-Fuelling of Powered Plant and Equipment

On the 18th January, 2008 a member of staff at Paddington suffered serious burns to his body. The injured person had lifted a generator into the back of a Ford Transit crew bus and whilst doing so his overalls became covered in petrol. It is understood that the fuel cap of the generator had not been replaced. The petrol ignited.



Learning Point:

- **As fuel evaporates it expands at a great rate, creating an unseen vapour cloud of large volume, this is highly flammable.**

Actions:

All staff are reminded that

- A pre-use check of plant must be undertaken to check that there are no leakages and that the fuel cap fits correctly and the seal is fitted
- All plant should be re-fuelled at least 10 metres from any worksite, other machines, naked flames or ignition sources – Take the plant to the fuelling point and not the fuel to the plant
- Smoking is not permitted within 10 metres of plant or fuelling points
- A fire extinguisher must be available at all fuelling points

Further guidance can be found in Maintenance Task Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/0001/GA064 issue 1.

Behaviour:

We are all responsible for our own safety and the safety of others around us and should be constantly asking ourselves:-

- What could hurt me?
- What could hurt my team mates?
- What could hurt other rail workers?
- What could hurt members of the public?
- What is the worst thing that could happen on this job?