

No: ISG 240

Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

Vegetation flailing operations

This bulletin is for the attention of: **OTP Contractors, OTP Operators, IMDM's and line managers, Project or work delivery managers, Health & Safety Advisors and Machine Controllers.**

Background

A recent incident occurred during the use of a flailing attachment on a Road Rail Vehicle (RRV). The operator suffered minor eye injuries when during operation, the flail struck an object believed to be a pandrol clip in the undergrowth and propelled it towards the cab of the excavator. The clip struck and smashed the glass windscreen resulting in the operator being hit with shards of glass



Action required:

OTP suppliers

- When supplying an RRV with flailing attachment, the RRV shall be fitted with an appropriate windscreen guard or other suitable means of windscreen protection.
- Flailing mowers shall be fitted with suitable guarding appropriate for the type of flailing operation being undertaken.

IMDM's and line managers, Project Managers or work delivery managers are reminded that a site survey must be completed prior to the commencement of operation. Action must be taken to remove all identified hazards if practicable or Machine Controllers and Operators must be briefed on any additional risk mitigation measures.

Machine Controllers are reminded

- To wear hand, eye and ear protection
- To maintain a 100m exclusion zone from the flail head
- Remove debris from roads, public areas and S&C, and excess debris from the infrastructure.

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