

Safety Bulletin

A serious incident has taken place



Staff injury

Issued to: **Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and RISQS registered contractors**

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Location: Wales & Western

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Overview

On the morning of 22nd November 2019, at approximately 01:20, a subcontractor was installing a "dead section" (insulator) in the existing catenary wire at Green Lane, Newport. The activity required the two operatives to work from a MEWP basket to replace a section of the OLE wire.

This was done using rigging equipment to clamp the section of wire to be replaced then tensioning the wire using a winch. Whilst under tension the rig detached from the wire under tension. The rigging equipment struck the operative on his helmet and forehead, causing a fractured skull.

Discussion Points

- Take 5 to discuss your working environment, your work equipment and method of working for your activity.
- Visually check equipment (particularly components to grip loads under tension) to make sure they are clean of any debris and fit for purpose.
- Utilise your training to make sure you perform tasks as per your training.
- Do your task risk control sheets adequately identify PPE requirements?
- Are you wearing the correct PPE? Is it in good working order?
- Please remember if you feel what you are doing could be made safer, please use the Worksafe process to re-evaluate what you are doing.