



FIRST ALERT

27 May 2024

EWP Operator without current competencies

During an inspection while installing pre-cast panels at the Otahuhu STATCOM project, it was identified that the experienced EWP Operator’s competency for the machine had lapsed. The Site Manager was not aware that the competencies needed to be refreshed every 3 years, as indicated in section 6.3 of the MEWP Best Practice guidelines.

It is important to ensure that competency requirements are refreshed as per the guidance to inform operators of potential changes in technology, legislation, and current best practice.

The work was paused, and it was requested that the Operator refreshed their competency prior to operating the equipment again. Another Operator with current competency must operate the machine or the work pause to continue until this refresh occurs. Activities resumed after 40 minutes with an alternative Operator, after their competencies were verified.



Immediate actions

- The team was instructed to pause the work.
- The team met and a toolbox was held where they were informed about the importance of having the appropriate and current competencies for the development of an activity.
- An alternative EWP Operator was requested by the contractor. Once on site, the competencies of the new Operator were verified.

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