



CUT HAND FROM SILKY SAW

OVERVIEW

- A contractor suffered a cut hand while using a Silky saw during a tree cutting operation.
- This is the second incident in 2025 where a person has been injured while using a Silky saw.
- Generally, UK Power Networks use a range of bladed tools and have seen a number of hand injuries in 2025. It is critical to ensure care is taken when using such tools.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- Ensure the scabbard/cover of the Silky saw is in place until required to undertake the cut and replaced after the task.
- Be aware of the ground conditions and any potential trip hazards and record these on the onsite Point of Work Assessment.
- Ensure the correct tools are used for any works planned.
- When operating the saw, **keep your hands away from the blade at all times.**

DETAIL

On 25 November 2025, a contractor was preparing rods to remove a tree branch. The contractor connected the required rods together and removed the Silky saw from its sleeve to attach it. At this point, the employee adjusted their footing and tripped over the rods. As the employee fell their left hand made contact with the blade of the Silky saw.

The fall and the associated impact caused the blade to penetrate their gloves and puncture the skin, resulting in an injury that required three stitches.

- Silky saws are extremely sharp and should always be handled with caution.
- Silky saws must have the scabbard /cover in place until at the work position and until required to undertake the cut they must be replaced after the task.



Primary communication via Line Manager complete by (X)	1 week	X	2 weeks	1 month
Additional communication (X)	Learning points	X	1 st 15	Team Brief slide

Line management must ensure appropriate employees understand the content of this document within the timescale shown.
This document is subject to compliance audits after the communication deadline.