

Newsflash – 2019 08**10th June 2019** Internal

Every employee and contractor, working for Northern Powergrid, should go home at the end of each shift uninjured and in good health after a productive days work

Working at Height on Vehicles

Last October we notified you of a working at height accident which resulted in a very serious leg injury to one of our colleagues. A linesman was unloading scrap from the lorry pictured below when he lost his balance and fell fracturing his leg and dislocating his knee. After months of rehabilitation he has only recently been able to return to work on modified duties.

In the aftermath of that serious accident, our message was clear:

The purpose of edge protection on our vehicles is to prevent accidental falls from height.

When accessing vehicles for whatever purpose side/edge protection must be in place.

It was therefore very disappointing that just last week, one of our contractors was observed working without fall restraint on the back of a lorry, with the edge protection lowered.

Our vehicles are specified with the safety of our colleagues as our number one priority.



REMEMBER:

- Always use mechanical means to handle heavier objects where practicable
- Always consider your own safety first when loading and unloading vehicles
- Always place objects close to the edge when manual handling so they can be removed easily from ground level AFTER dropping the sides
- Where possible never work on the rear of vehicles with the sides removed



If in the unlikely event that is necessary to lower the edge protection for any reason whilst personnel are working on our vehicles, a documented risk assessment with adequate risk control measures is required.