

SAFETY BULLETIN SB3/2019 (TBX - 97)

Failure of Klauke Mini Insulated Crimping Tool

Background

A Klauke insulated mini crimping tool failed, which resulted in the head of the device being ejected from the body of the device, narrowly missing the face of the operator.



Detail

A Klauke insulated mini crimping tool was being used to crimp an overhead line non-tension connector. While under compression the head of the tool separated from the body of the tool. The head was ejected from the tool with force landing a distance away from the operator. Hydraulic oil was also ejected from the body of the tool onto the operator.

Immediate examination of the tool revealed the plastic threads connecting the head of the tool were sheared. The tool has completed 189 operations and was not due for service until 5000 operations had been completed. It was returned to the manufacturers for an urgent investigation into the cause of failure and the manufacturers have identified that all tools of this type shall be recalled.

Actions Required

- Managers to ensure that all Klauke Orange Line Fully Insulated battery crimping and compression tools shall be withdrawn from service by Friday 27th September.
- Managers should record the details of these tools and arrange collection of them by Horizon.
- The manufacturer shall then inspected and either return or replace the tools.
- (Ideally returns should be co-ordinated by one point of contact at each Depot)
- Staff to be reminded of the importance of wearing safety glasses/visor whenever they carry out work; in this case they prevented hydraulic oil from entering the operator's eyes.

Intended Audience	All staff who use compression crimping and cutting tools
Briefing Type	Team Manager
TBX No	97
Follow Up Actions	All affected tools to be withdrawn and sent to the manufacturer with immediate effect

Jason Powell
18th September 2019