



Crush Injuries Result in Fractured Pelvis



On Thursday 30th November 2017, a member of the project team working in North Wales suffered serious injuries as a result of being crushed by a 132kV wood pole structure. The injuries were so severe that he was immediately air-lifted to hospital in Liverpool.

The activity being undertaken was the erection of a Heavy Duty Wood Pole (HDWP) structure, which comprised of two poles, the top level steelwork, and the braces and baulks at the bottom of the structure. In total, a structure weighing in excess of 3 tons that became unstable and resulted in crushing the team member within the excavation.

The full extent of the injuries included two blood clots and a fractured pelvis, which resulted in over six hours of surgery the following day. The post-operative care has commenced including skin grafts to his thighs, and physiotherapy for his pelvis and legs.

A joint investigation has been established, between the appointed contractor and SP Energy Networks, and is continuing at this time.

Initial Observations

Subject to the outcome of the investigation, please note the following areas:

- **Ensure you are familiar with, and comply with, the Risk Assessment and Method Statement for the work you are involved in**
- **Ensure you understand the risks and hazards associated with the work activity**
- **Only undertake work if you are competent to do so**
- **Think before you act and be confident to speak up if in doubt**



Health and Safety Essentials