

Lessons Learnt – LL048

Blasting Incident

This Alert is applicable to:

Fibre		Distribution		Transmission	X	Wider Business	
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Date of issue: 19/05/2015

Incident	Description
<i>Date incident happened</i>	29/04/2015
<i>Where it happened</i>	196 Kapiti Road, Paraparaumu
<i>What happened</i>	While blasting a tower with an abrasive compound, the worker had attached his pole chain with a single loop onto a horizontal steel member. As he leaned while blasting, the chain slipped, resulting in his left wrist getting blasted between his gloves and his overalls.
<i>Why it happened</i>	 <p>The pole chain was not double looped around the horizontal member as is standard practice and this resulted in it slipping when the employee stretched to one side.</p> <p>If he had double looped the chain it would have prevented him from slipping and stretching out.</p> <p>The worker was also trying to do too much work without repositioning himself on the tower.</p> <p>The worker was at the top of the tower, so others below would not have been aware he had not double-looped the pole chain.</p> <p>Re-enactment</p>
<i>The important things you should remember about this</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always double loop the pole chain. Never try to outstretch while blasting; stop and reposition yourself
<i>What will happen next</i>	 <p>New cut resistant sleeves have been issued to all staff to ensure no skin is exposed between gloves and the sleeves of the overalls.</p> <p>The incident has been discussed at Safe Team meetings and the worker talked to staff about what he did and what he should have done.</p>
<i>SM-EI Reference/ Hazard Register ID</i>	<i>Risk Register : Abrasion from blasting – new entry</i>
<i>Released by:</i>	Janine Wagstaff - 02074595660