



SAFETY ALERT

Vector[®]

Don't learn safety by accident

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HISTORY – WHAT HAPPENED

In August 2017, a member of the public tripped and fell next to a power pole. During the fall the person's finger contacted a stainless-steel cable support strap on the pole resulting in a laceration. The person was taken to hospital for surgery.



WHAT IS HAPPENING IN RESPONSE TO THE INCIDENT?

A full investigation is underway. Initial findings have shown:

1. The pole cable strap was a Utilux Stainless steel strap 12.7mm.
2. This strap ties and supports PVC cable conduit from the ground to a height of approximately 9 meters.
3. The stainless steel strap is smooth along the length and the ends are sharp due to the cutting of the band.
4. The strap had a cut length beyond the foldable tags.
5. A longer cut length can occur when the cutting tool slips down the length of strap slightly during the cutting action.
6. The longer cut length can result in the cable strap protruding from the pole.

VECTOR REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements will ensure the likelihood of this incident occurring again are minimised:

- Vector will conduct a safety in design review for the purpose of eliminating an exposed sharp cut edge on an installed pole cable strap.
- In the meantime, all contractors are to ensure that the pole strap cut edge length is minimised, as reasonably as practicable, as shown in the below photos:



CONTACT

Scott Muspratt
Senior Capital Investment Engineer
DDI: +64 9 978 7633
E: Scott.Muspratt@vector.co.nz

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