



Near Miss – Dropped Pole Chain Strap

WHAT HAPPENED?

Following on from a First Alert where a tower painter was able to undo both ends of his chain pole strap, which caused it to drop approx. 40m hitting several minor members on the way down.



IMMEDIATE ACTION TAKEN

- Toolbox was held with all staff emphasising the importance of a drop zone .
- Congratulated staff on reporting the near miss.

ROOT CAUSE

Staff member was able to inadvertently entirely detach himself from the pole strap.

LEARNINGS

- A solution has been found whereby FTPS (Fitzroy Tower Painting Services) are now using 1100kg rated maillon carabiner. This needs to be nipped closed with a spanner preventing it from coming undone and therefore providing a secure anchor point to the erator's full body harness & accidentally falling from the operator's person. Include references to regulations or approved codes of practices. (Attached above is a picture of the new pole strap maillon carabiner)
- FTPS is currently in process of replacing the clips with rated maillon carabiners onto all chain pole straps. These will be certified and added to the testing program register.