

safety alert

Finger Injury

Final Safety Alert to initial one released on 17 May 2014

Electrix Event Number
14051

What Happened

On 16 May 2014, a Line Mechanic injured one of his fingers whilst he was installing a new hanger bracket for an attachment point on a 220kV Transmission Line structure.

The Line Mechanic caught his finger between two pieces of metal as he tried to locate the hanger bracket into its final position.

Findings

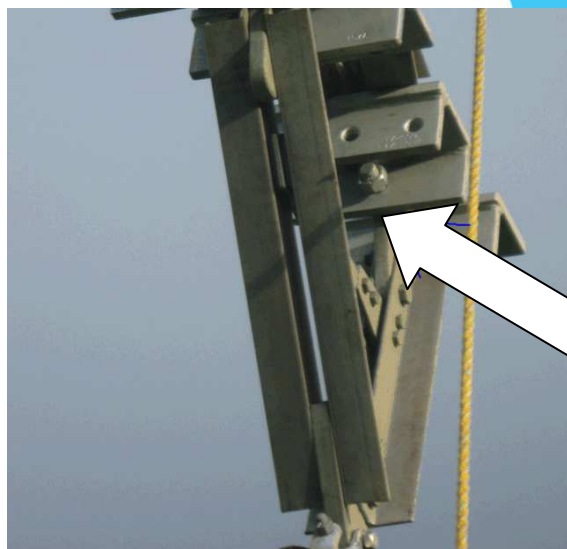
The 64kg weight of the new hanger bracket was being supported by a chain hoist. Due to the clearances between the hanger bracket and the attachment point being minimal the line mechanic tried various methods to get the hanger bracket to fit, including loosening all of the bolts for the attachment point but still needed to physically force the hanger bracket into the attachment point.

Root Cause

- The work position decided on by the line mechanic complicated the task of installing the hanger bracket into the attachment point. He did not identify the pinch point hazard in his initial hazard identification

Lesson Learnt

- Thorough prestart planning and hazard identification on site must be completed prior to carrying out assigned work including assessment of hidden hazards like pinch points. Appropriate control measures must then be used to prevent harm. The hierarchy of control is **Eliminate, Isolate, Minimise**.



Arrow indicates where finger got caught between hanger bracket and attachment point.

For more information please contact Dave Whale, TCEN QSE Assessor at 021 868 745

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Safety Alerts are advisory only. They contain limited information on an event which has been investigated and reported and the key findings of the investigation are published as a Safety Alert to highlight the key learnings from the event