



Working near Overhead Lines

1 Existing safety procedures/policy

HS-PR-037 Avoiding Danger from Overhead Lines

HS-PR-089 Plant and Vehicle Management Procedure

HSE Guidance Note GS6 - Avoidance of danger from overhead electric power lines

2 Incident/subject summary

A subcontractor employee has suffered burns whilst using a Hiab vehicle in the vicinity of overhead lines. The subcontractor was attending a BBUS site to collect pump hoses.

Goal posts had been erected to warn plant and vehicle drivers of the overhead lines that crossed the site but at the time of the incident the subcontractor Hiab was positioned beyond the goal posts in the height-restricted area. Whilst collecting the pump hoses the Hiab arm was raised resulting in an arc occurring between an 11kV line and the Hiab. The Hiab operator suffered burns and was taken to hospital.

3 Deviation from procedure/reason for unsafe occurrence summary

Work with a Hiab was undertaken in an area where the risk of contact with overhead lines had been identified and where a height restriction was in place.

4 Actions

Responsibility

- Review measures currently in place to avoid dangers from overhead lines.

Site Manager

- Ensure overhead line hazards are correctly identified.
- Ensure the site is set out in compliance with the requirements of GS6.
- Ensure Plant and Vehicle Management Plans are in place for all sites and include the designated loading and unloading points.
- Ensure the measures taken are properly communicated and understood by all persons on site. – Including Subcontractors and Delivery Drivers.

- Always comply with warning signs, goal posts and exclusion zones, and work in accordance with the requirements of the site Plant and Vehicle Management Plan.

Plant Operators

- Complete attached question set and return to Central Safety Manager by close of business Thurs. 7th February.

Responsible
Manager