	Health, Safety, Quality and Environmental Alert	Alert number: 27-15	Document Reference: AMG/F/HSQE/001
AUCTUS MANAGEMENT GROUP	**Facial Injury Accident at Hither Green (Not Colas Rail)**	Issue Date: 25/03/15	Author: Steve Milroy

(To be posted on HSQE Notice Boards for a Period of 1 MONTH from date of issue)

Background:

On Sunday the 01st March 2015 a member of Network Rail staff supplied to Works Delivery by Cleshar Contract Services was caught in the face with the handle from a Simplex Rail Jack causing mild concussion, a broken tooth and some bruising.

The IP was working in a Possession at Hither Green for Works Delivery carrying out S&C Refurbishment works on 917a points when the handle from a Simplex Rail Jack he was using sprang back and caught him in the face.

The IP had been tasked as part of a team to undertake the final snagging works on the refurbishment of 917a Points which included final alignment of the S&C Timbers. Ballast had got caught between the Rail and Timber and so to clear the Ballast away from the timber the rail had been lifted using a Simplex Rail Jack to subsequently give sufficient clearances to allow the safe removal of the ballast.

On releasing the Rail Jack the load and pressure caused the Jack Handle to jolt and spring back and caught the IP in the face causing facial injuries including the loss of a tooth, bruising and mild concussion. Fortunately the majority of the impact was absorbed by the IP's Hard Hat.

The IP visited hospital as a precaution where the injuries were confirmed.

Example of the Jack that was in use

Actions Required

• Ensure that you are using the correct jack for the task being undertaken.

• Always use the correct handle for the jack and check that it is correctly seated in the socket.

• When using the jack check all personnel are clear (including the limbs and clothes of the operator).

• Only lift the rail to the minimum height required for the task.

• When undertaking the lift and the lowering operations complete in a slow and controlled manner, assessing the weights under load.