



Health, Safety, Quality and Environmental Alert

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Broken Finger whilst Using a Hammer

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

Description of Accident

A labour only subcontractor from Vital was working for Victoria Track Team in platform 3 at Victoria Station. At the time of the accident the individual was using a hammer to start the AS screw in the new hole before it was to be tightened by use of an impact wrench.

The individual was using a long handled sledge hammer to knock the AS screw into the hole to get it started and due to the nature of the tool was holding the shaft of the hammer up towards the head. The individual was also standing on the opposite side of the rail to the screw and as he went to tap the screw home he missed the head and his finger became trapped between the shaft of the hammer and the rail resulting in a broken finger.

The injured person attended his local A&E and is expected to be off work for a period of time.



Cause(s) of the Accident

The injured person was using an inappropriate tool for the job at hand and hadn't positioned themselves in the most appropriate manner.

Action taken to prevent similar Accidents:

Staff including sub-contractors to be briefed on correct use of hand tools for the task being undertaken .

Short handled hammers to be made available for similar works