



# SAFETY LESSONS LEARNT BULLETIN

## Near Miss – Working at Height

### Near Miss Report: Lessons Learned Following Observations

#### Information sharing

As part of the BRP project a near miss was reported when an operative was observed on the roof of the pumping station at Lickhill, Stourport. There was a potential fall of approximately 6m from the roof below, there was no edge protection to the roof area or other method of fall restraint being used.

The Operative was observed climbing from the roof into a cherry picker basket. At the time the operative was not wearing a harness or lanyard securing anchorage within the basket.

A discussion followed with the Operative on the observed near miss and during the conversation it was found that no daily MEWP checks had inspections been completed for the day.

In addition, the Safe Systems of Work were reviewed and reflected within the site specific RAMs which he had been briefed and signed to acknowledge this.

Following an investigation, it was clear the Operative had demonstrated unsafe behaviour and had made a gross error of judgement when undertaking this unplanned Work @ Height (WAH) activity.

#### Lessons

- Always agree & plan all High Risk activities including WAH (construction and remedial) activities with site management teams;
- Make sure Operatives involved in the works are specifically aware of all the hazards and risks prior to commencement of WAH works;
- Operatives undertaking WAH, must be competent, experienced & trained,
- All operatives must understand the SSoW contained within the Site specific RAMs, be briefed and sign to acknowledge;
- Ensure all equipment and PPE (including harnesses and fall restraint systems are inspected pre use and checked & fit for purpose
- Ensure Statutory inspections for plant, equipment MEWPs are undertaken to identify any potential damage or defects and record findings within the inspection register.

#### General Learning Points

Ensure all WAH activities are planned and controlled, to confirm suitability of plant and equipment. Furthermore, all Operatives should understand and agree the SSoW to be adopted.

