

Condition of Working Areas



Another avoidable lost time accident.

Yet again we have experienced another avoidable accident within one of our business units. This involved an individual tripping over exposed rebar which was part of a previous concrete plinth removed to facilitate our drilling works.

The picture below has the existing reinforcing bar (sprayed red post-accident). The rebar was clearly visible prior to operations commencing however over the course of the project the conditions had worsened due to the grout build up and poor weather, making the rebar hazard less obvious to the operative.

On the last day on site an operative tripped and fell whilst carrying a 3m drill rod resulting in a fracture to his finger.



Assessing the Risk

With a proper assessment of the risks prior to commencing work, this accident would **not** have happened.

As an employer we have a legal obligation to ensure we provide safe access and egress for our employees. As employees you have an obligation to look after yourself and others, this can be achieved by reporting poor conditions, maintaining good housekeeping and working areas.

Action to be taken.

Supervisors need to ensure that they assess areas under their control and record issues/hazards on the SOS briefing, put suitable controls in place to reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

We cannot continue to allow poor working areas, if you feel you are unable to ensure a safe working environment you need to raise this with your line manager. Operatives also need to assess their work areas, maintain it and report unsafe conditions, if no action is being taken on site then report to any member of the Health & safety team and via the BAC APP.

Challenge poor work areas, conditions do change, report and act.