B A C C H A T S A F E T Y A L E R T .

R I D D O R S P E C I F I E D I N J U R Y F O L L O W I N G A C O L L I S I O N W I T H A N E X C A V A T O R

INTRODUCTION

An incident has recently occurred on one of our projects that has resulted in a fractured wrist to one of our employees following a fall to the ground as the result of a collision with a reversing 26t excavator.

The incident resulted in the injured party being treated on site by a paramedic and then being taken to hospital by ambulance for further treatment.

This incident also occurred as a result of failings within various areas covered by recent BSL safety initiatives and campaigns as highlighted in the findings below

---

EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE INCIDENT / IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

Prior to the accident occurring a 26T excavator was working in the phase 4 area for the groundworker who was preparing the ground for BSL to move too as part of the next phase of the works.

Discussions were held between BSL and the groundwork subcontractor regarding BSL placing equipment in the phase 4 area prior to BSL moving into this area, and the equipment included a 10m x 0.75m casing.

One of BSL's employees (Injured party IP) then entered the phase 4 area ready to land the casing that was being moved by the site service crane. As the casing was being landed the IP stood at one end of the load to guide it into position and start to remove the chains. (The red star in the figure above indicates the point of collision).

Just prior to the chains being removed the 26t excavator reversed close to the casing and the L/H/S track collided with the IP causing them to fall and sustain bruising to their L/H leg and a fractured wrist. Despite the IP being injured he was able to step to one side, if he hadn't this could have easily been a fatal incident.

(The figure to the right indicates the condition of the IP's safety helmet after the incident).

INITIAL FINDINGS

A summary of the initial findings can be found below:

- There were informal discussions held between BSL and the groundworker (Carey's) regarding BSL receiving permission to enter Phase 4, but nothing was formalised or approved by either party or with the PC. – **BSL safety standards and procedures not being followed**
-
- Guidance and instruction communicated to the workforce as part of the 2018 SHEQ initiative plan not adopted.
- At no point was the SOS brief or the change management section of the SOS utilised to inform BSL staff of the planned arrangements to move equipment into phase 4. **Ineffective Start of Shift/ Change briefing provided**
- There was no physical segregation between the Carey's (Phase 4) works and the BSL Phase 2 works area meaning that staff from both contractors could walk into unauthorised areas at any point prior to the accident occurring. **Exclusion Zone Management**
- The excavator was of zero swing type and was fitted with a fully serviceable rear reversing camera. It was reported the excavator was under control of banksman (Carey's) but it is unclear if any clear signals were given between the banksman and the excavator driver. **Safe Operation of Plant/ Exclusion Zones**
- The statements of the banksman and the excavator driver stated they did not notice a van and a dumper parked on site. The position of these vehicles would have blocked the view of the excavator driver (see red circle below) so the banksman's visibility was severely restricted. **Behavioural Safety/ Risk Management.**

- The statements given by various members of the BSL and Carey's team contradicted each other regarding people implying they had no knowledge of the plan for BSL to move equipment into phase 4.

ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE INCIDENT

A summary of the actions taken following the incident can be found below:

- Physical barriers were installed between BSL and Carey's activities to prevent staff entering unauthorised areas.
- Contractors requiring access into other contractors' areas will only be permitted once their request has approved by the PC.
- These arrangements must then be briefed to all parties involved.
- The PC has been asked to prevent vehicles parking on site. The van blocking visibility in this incident was for another contractor not involved in the incident.
- Banksmen are to conduct a full walk of the area before guiding vehicles.
- Physical exclusion zone (crowd barriers) to be established around the swing radius of all BSL plant on site with no trap hazards

---

RECOMENDATIONS

A summary of the recommendations for BSL staff following the incident can be found below:

- Ensure that barriers and signage is positioned to prevent unauthorised staff entering our work areas.
- Do not enter another contractor's works area unless you have permission to do so from the PC.
- Traffic management, access and storage arrangements for the day MUST be briefed to BSL staff during the SOS brief.

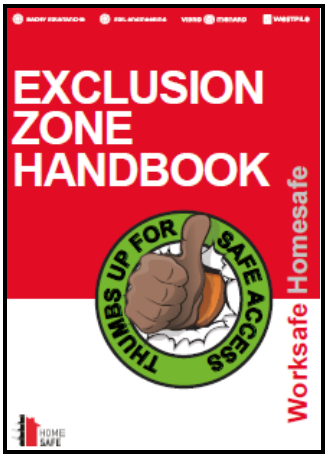
- If any changes occur during the day, stop work, assess the situation, get permission from the PC to continue and re-brief the arrangements with the BSL team or individuals affected by the changes before commencing, e.g. co-ordination meetings.
- Staff need to familiarize themselves with the SHEQ initiative plan and adopt the requirements of the campaigns, training, and guidance they are given. Examples of these failings within this incident are:

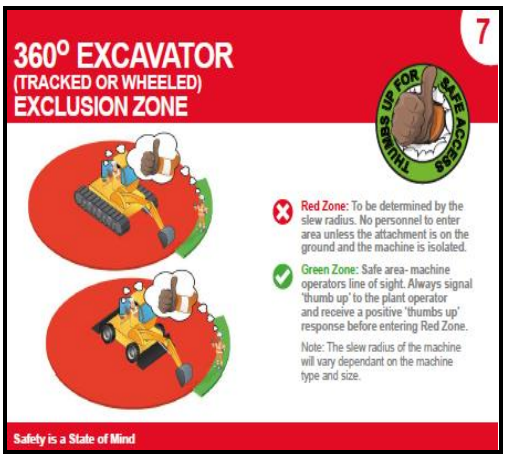
    - Poor behaviours have been shown in the decision-making process.
    - Poor planning regarding managing effective exclusion zones effectively.
    - Poor communication from management to staff undertaking the works.
    - Poor positioning of staff in areas that has plant moving in different locations.

A copy of the SHEQ plan can be found below:

- Utilise the guidance given to BSL staff during the previous exclusion zone management campaigns. Details of the campaign material including guidance on safe distances from plant and equipment can be found on the Terrain and Lotus notes management systems.

B A C C H A T S A F E T Y A L E R T .





REMEMBER!

STOP! reassess and re-brief if something changes.