



Safety Alert

Piling Rig Concrete Delivery Pipe Failure

6 April 2021

The following pages of this safety alert were issued by Highways England's supply chain partner:

**Amey and Sir Robert McAlpine
(Joint Venture)**

H&S IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION – Piling Rig Concrete Delivery Pipe Failure

Project/office:	M6 J19	Incident category:	Near Miss
Business Unit:	Civils	Potential severity:	Fatal
Date and time of incident:	30/03/2021 Various <input type="checkbox"/>	H&S category:	Plant & Equipment
Alert author:	Tony Rigby	Work activity/trade	Piling

What happened?

- During the installation of the very first pile, the section of steel pipe that connects the concrete supply line into the top of the auger failed.
- The supply line, laden with concrete, subsequently fell 8m to the ground.
- Fortunately, the supply line fell away from the rig operator who was stood adjacent to the auger

Location of section of pipe that failed



Immediate action(s) taken by project:

- Works stopped immediately (including the other piling rig working on the site)
- Investigation commenced with the focus on understanding the 'chain of custody' on the pipe section that failed

Swan neck arrangement of pipe that failed



Immediate action(s) required by other projects/contracts:

- Inspect all fabricated sections of concrete supply pipe sections for signs of repair / poor welds
- Contact owner of piling rig and ask them to confirm what inspection / testing is done on such sections
- More information to follow once investigation is concluded

Discussion points for related projects/sites:

- These sections of supply pipe are subject to considerable load when the piling rig moves from one location to another
- Ensure that components that connect one piece of equipment to another are subject to routine periodic inspection and testing – seek manufacturer / supplier advice on frequency and method
- Do you know if / how these periodic inspections and tests are undertaken?

Distribution:	<input type="checkbox"/> Board/ELT	<input type="checkbox"/> All Business Units	<input type="checkbox"/> Originating BU only
Action required:	<input type="checkbox"/> Brief	<input type="checkbox"/> Display	<input type="checkbox"/> Information only