



Alert

Crush Injury to foot when a Plunge Column has moved from its timber base.

Date of incident	02/11/2022	Incident type	LTI Injury
Incident ref number	678340	Contractor	SB3
Sublot	2b	Location	Burton Green Tunnel
Keyword search	Suspected Fracture to Foot/Toe	Reported by	R. Whitehouse

Summary of Incident

An SB3 (agency) crane supervisor sustained a crush injury to his foot when a plunge column (Rectangular Hollow section filled with concrete-gross weight 6t) moved from a stacked timber and the spacer onto his foot. The column had been lowered to the ground using a set of 2 kidney chains. The column was resting on 2no 4" x 4" timbers (stacked on top of each other) to keep the spacers from coming into contact with the ground. While the kidney chains were being removed, the stacked timbers have "given way" or "rolled" causing the column to move horizontally (approx. 100mm) and downwards approx. 100mm. This motion trapped the operative's foot between spacer and the ground. The column was lifted to release the trapped IP

Photographs



Initial Findings

- The right-hand side 4" x 4" timber has moved horizontally causing it to roll off the bottom timber, caused by the weight of the Plunge Column.
- Stacked timbers should be avoided, single sleepers should be specified for use in storing Plunge Columns



Immediate Actions

- The Plunge Column was re-attached to the kidney chain and lifted.
- IP was removed from the site and taken to Hospital.
- Photographs were taken
- IP and witnesses were interviewed.
- The incident investigation team was identified and the 24hour call arranged.
- The area was demarcated and made safe.