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| Toolbox No. | Issue No. xxx | Date: |
|  | TOOL BOX TALK | |
| | <u>TOPIC: Injection Injuries in the field</u> | |

Scope:

The awareness of risks associated with hydraulic pressure is sometimes overlooked by engineers and in particular end users, resulting in serious life-threatening injuries.

It is important when conducting maintenance operations on hydraulic systems that the following guidance is adhered to prevent the risk of Hydraulic Injection Injuries.

Risk Management:

- A suitable and sufficient risk assessment should be carried out prior to commencement of the activity including location of the nearest hospital with the facilities to treat a hydraulic injection injury. (Not all hospitals have these facilities)
- If at any time you suspect a hydraulic injection injury has occurred seek medical advice immediately at the hospital identified as per above.
- Inform medical staff that the injury is a suspected injection injury upon arrival.

Control Measures:

- Hydraulic maintenance should only ever be completed by a trained engineer.
- Before commencing any maintenance, lower any elevated sections as a system depressurisation can cause elevated sections to drop.
- Depressurise the system before commencing any task by operating the hydraulic levers whilst the equipment is not switch on, once these precautions are observed, the technician, wearing gloves to protect hands from protruding wires, can safely run hands across hoses looking for damaged areas and potential leak points.
- Follow recommended LOTO (Lock Out / Tag Out) procedures by removing keys from the equipment and store securely to prevent unauthorised start up whilst maintenance is being conducted to prevent unauthorised start-up of the equipment.
- Apply any isolation switches as a backup.
- Communication is vital when working on hydraulic systems. It is advised that appropriate safety signage stating that the equipment is under repair is clearly displayed.
- **Look and Listen – Can you see the leak? Can you hear the leak?**
- Never check for leaks with your hand, always use a surface such a card which is flexible and can be moulded to access around pipework.

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Images where applicable:



Takeaway Point: i.e. Always isolate and communicate when equipment is under maintenance.

Applicable Legislation

Related Documents:

Eg: [Hydraulic injection injury \(hse.gov.uk\)](https://www.hse.gov.uk)

BFPFA Hydraulic Injection Booklet

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| TOOLBOX ATTENDANCE SHEET | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Company: | Talk Delivered By | |
| Date: | | |
| <u>Attended By</u> | <u>Signature</u> | <u>Date</u> |
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