

Lucky Escape at Southampton

Clint McCrae, Andy Woods and Paul Mason had a very lucky escape when they hit an overhead cable on the Denizen site in Southampton recently.

Whilst not serious accidents in themselves, all of them could have been avoided if more care had been taken, or if someone was asked to help move the materials.

Cable below goal post markers!



The guys were carrying out an excavation between a set of goal post markers that identified the position of the overhead cable, but thought that they would not hit it despite the cable being below the level of the goal posts. Clearly this proved not to be the case and when Paul hit the cable with the excavator both Andy and Clint were extremely lucky not to be killed.

Whilst a number of homes lost power for a few hours until the SEB repaired the cable, clearly the guys had a very lucky escape.

Andrew Brown said after discussing the incident with Clint “ putting guys to work when the cable was below the level of the goal post protection was madness as this was clearly not a safe system of work. Even with the best will in the world, we need to know when to stop before an accident happens and all our employees must be happy to question what they are being asked to do before they do it. Thankfully there was nothing more than loss of power, rather than loss of life.”

Pay Attention To All Access To Work Routes

With winter now here and no let up in the cold and wet weather unlikely until next summer we need to pay attention to the state of access across all our sites. We need to pay particular attention to not just the main haul roads, but from the haul roads to the actual point of work. Most of our accidents in the last few years have involved people slipping whilst carrying items of plant or moving materials, so please make sure your access and that of your colleagues is safe at all times.

Think Safe, Work Safe, Stay Safe.