



HiPo dropped scaffolding kickboard

Number	2020-03	Date	16.07.2020
---------------	---------	-------------	------------

Summary:

Recently during the construction of an energy from waste plant a scaffold kickboard 2m long and 15cm wide (about 3kg) fell through a small gap between a boiler and walkway and struck a worker on the head 5m below. The worker was not injured. The scaffolder who had removed the board that fell was instructed to carry out a minor modification to the scaffold by an erection contractor supervisor. Individual scaffolders working directly with contractors was adopted by HZI to prevent unauthorised modifications to scaffolds by erection contractor workers when they needed access for pipes or lagging to be installed. In this case though no exclusion zone was put in place below the work and the scaffolder failed to notice the gap.

Outcomes

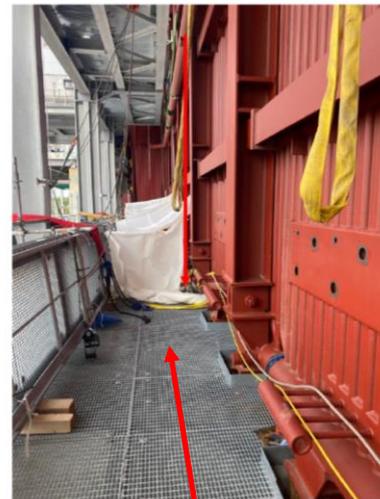
- No one was injured
- Scaffolding operations were suspended

Incident Classification: Near miss / HiPo

Photos



Arrow shows small gap



Position of worker 5m below

Root Causes and Contributory Factors

Process Failures

- There was no requirement identified in the RAMS to inform the Scaffold Supervisor about a modification to scaffold
- No exclusion zone was put in place before the works

Human Factor Failures

- Scaffolder failed to identify risk of Drop Objects

Lesson Learned

- Revise RAMS to include requirement to inform Scaffold Supervisor so that the Supervisor can take responsibility for the activity and implement the correct controls
- If a Drop Zone is required the Scaffold Supervisor must ensure that the Drop Zone is approved by HZI and detailed on the POWRA. It can then only be removed by Scaffold supervisor Supervisors who annotates the POWRA.



Every Lesson Learned is an opportunity to avoid recurrences. What have you done to avoid similar incident on your project?

