## **Health & Safety Bulletin**



## **Finger Injury**

This safety bulletin has been issued following a recent accident, which saw the Injured Person's (IP) injury his finger on our Upper Newtownards Road Sewer Upgrade contract.

On Monday 12th June 2017 at approx. 17:00hrs, the injured person (IP) was assisting with the erection of an existing site security fence along the Knock Rd section of the site, whenever he caught and injured the index finger of his left hand.

IP received first aid on site and was taken by a DW Supervisor to the local A&E, who confirmed that the tip of his finger was fractured and required 5 stitches.

A&E confirmed that the injury could have been worse if the IP had not been wearing gloves. Please review current site activities and ensure gloves are available for all manual activities on site.

Hand injuries are serious:

- Protecting your fingers and hands is important for your work and quality of life. Work-related hand injuries are one of the leading reasons workers end up in A&E and missing work.
- Damage to the nerves in your fingers and hands, loss of a finger, a skin burn or allergic reaction, can negatively impact the quality of your work, your productivity or worse end your career and seriously detract from your quality of life.

## Causes of hand injuries:

There are many hazards on construction sites that can result in a hand injury, including:

- Punctures, cuts or lacerations caused by contact with sharp, spiked or jagged edges on equipment, tools or materials.
- Crushed, fractures or amputations caused by contact with gears, belts, wheels and rollers, falling objects, and rings, gloves or clothing getting caught and putting your hand in harm's way.
- Strains, sprains, and other musculoskeletal injuries caused by using the wrong tool for the
  job, or one that is too big, small or heavy for your hand.
- Burns caused by direct contact with a hot surface or a chemical.
- Dermatitis and other skin disorders caused by direct contact with chemicals in products and materials.

Always stay alert and focused on keeping your hands safe – not just at the start of work or a task



## **Health & Safety Bulletin**



Tool Box Talk / Communication				
Specific Procedures & Safety Issues Discussed				
1.	Review tool box talk content			
2.	Review current RAMS & practices on site – ensuring everyone has signed			
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				

Attendees					
Date	Name	Company	Signature		

