Lessons Learned Summary

Incident : *Incident Title*

Machine excavator strikes and damages street lighting cable during trench excavation

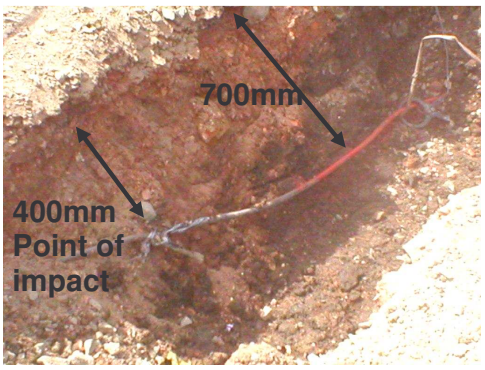
Traction Ref : 2008-IR-1804314
Site : Beach Road, Ineos Grangemouth
Date of Incident : 10th June 2008

What Happened:

On Tuesday 10th June 2008 at 11:40 a.m. a civil engineering contractor who were excavating a trench to locate a fire hydrant at the West of Beach Road, Ineos Grangemouth, struck and damaged a street lighting cable with the excavator bucket. The group had knowledge of the cable having already located it and traced it using a Genny signal and CAT detector. The route of the cable was also marked with spray paint.

What went wrong:

- Although conditions of the permit stipulated hand dig only to locate and expose electrical cables a decision was made by the group to machine excavate the compacted ground in order to make the job quicker and easier.
- The group was aware of the site rules and procedures to hand dig and locate/expose electrical cables but still chose to undertake the task using a machine excavator. The requirement to hand dig was stipulated on the front page of the permit.
- The cable ran at a consistent depth of 700mm for approx 3 to 4 meters. As excavation work continued the depth of the cable was to dramatically change and what had steadily run at a depth of 700 mm was to deviate and run at a depth of 400mm where it was then struck and damaged by the machine excavator.



Key Lessons:

- In locations known to contain electrical cables on the Ineos site, hand digging to locate and expose the electrical cables is a mandatory requirement.
- Conditions of the permit, risk assessment and method statement must be adhered to at all times.
- Should conditions of the job change, stop work and contact your supervisor immediately.

Contacts for further information:

Investigation Leader: David Carroll (01324-475308) e-mail: david.carroll@ondeo-is.com