

# Safety Observation

## Manual Handling

### Incident Description:

- Two Contractors were assigned to shift a mini-excavator bucket (141kg) onto a telehandler and move it to another location. IP (a Banksman for heavy vehicles) was passing by and decided to help his co-workers.
- The three workers started to push to load from the concrete into the telehandler bucket.
- All were wearing full leather gloves. Risk Assessment covered manual handling but not Line of Fire.
- Difference in friction between concrete and the steel bucket meant that the load moved suddenly, causing IP's index finger to be caught between load and back of the bucket.



### Root Causes:

- RCAF: Short cutting procedures or acceptable practices is positively reinforced.
  - Supervisor felt the transferring of a load is a repetitive practice therefore did not devise a plan or saw need to a pre-task talk
- RCAF: In the past did not follow procedures acceptable practices and no incident occurred.
  - Supervisor and workers have carried out such practices of similar manual handling at other sites and no injury occurred

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### Action Items:

- Increase frequency of site safety discussions.
- Provide Contractor Supervisor with Safety Leadership coaching.
- Contractor / Project Team to develop guidance on manual handling.
- Construct toolbox talk to focus upon Line of Fire, Manual Handling and Hand Safety
- Project Team to focus upon barriers that failed – JSA and People Risk Tolerance.

