

INCIDENT ALERT

LOCATION: Aggregate Dredger
ACTIVITY: Access & Egress & Working at Height
SUB ACTIVITY: N/A

ALERT STATUS: Normal
DATE ISSUED: 14/07/08
INCIDENT No: 00187

TITLE

Confined Space Access - Fall From Height Risk

ACCIDENT / INCIDENT DETAILS

Civil and Marine Purfleet were conducting a confined space task within the classifier. The local H&S Advisor was on site and reviewed the procedures, most of which were suitable for CS access. However, during the review, it was explained how the staff gained access to the lower reaches of the classifier.

As the photos show, they climbed through the access hatch, then free climbed down to the bottom.

THEY COULD HAVE LOST THEIR GRIP AND FALLEN AT ANY TIME DUE TO THE SLIPPERY NATURE OF THE POLISHED METAL. IF THEY HAD FALLEN, THERE WAS THE POTENTIAL TO BREAK THEIR NECK, BACK OR RECEIVE ANY NUMBER OF INJURIES!

ACCIDENT / INCIDENT IMAGES



LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

The risk assessment and SWP have now been changed and the staff now wear a harness attached to a hoist and climb down a ladder under control of the hoist operator to get to the lower reaches of the classifier.

They remain attached and this now acts as part of the emergency rescue plan.

This re-enforces the need to fully assess the risks associated with confined spaces, with access and egress being equally as important as controlling the specified hazards!

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS IMAGES