

QSE ALERT



QSE Alert No:

SIA - 012

Date of Issue:

24 October 07

Description of Incident:

A Protection Officer (PO), working at night at a level crossing, was passing instructions to a stationary train about to enter the worksite. Whilst walking back to engage the lights and flag the train through the level crossing, the PO walked into an unprotected culvert. The 600mm fall caused serious injury to his right ankle.



Direct Cause(s) of Incident:

1. The lighting tower, positioned for the night works, created a shadow at the culvert location making it difficult to see.
2. The culvert was not barricaded or visibly marked.

Corrective Actions:

1. Project Risk Assessments, prepared prior to works, must identify potential fall hazards such as culverts, drains and high embankment locations.
2. Nominated controls must include suitable protection (barricading & marking) to be installed prior to works beginning. **This is not just at night issue.**
3. Lighting towers must also be positioned to capture the entire work front. The use of a second light tower must be considered if one tower is unable to provide sufficient lighting for the entire work area.

Raised by: **Cameron Watson**

Approved by: **Colin Bush**

This QSE Alert Form is to be posted on all workplace notice boards and used by Supervisors as a subject for discussion at a "Toolbox" safety talk.

Please Distribute to all Workplaces

This alert should be removed from Notice Boards by: November 30, 2007