

NWE Bulletin 92 – Hammer Injury



RIDDOR Reportable Event

This Alert describes the background of an event that occurred at a Keller work site, and outlines corrective actions and recommendations that should be taken to prevent similar occurrences elsewhere.

Event Details

While putting concrete hoses together with a colleague the IP was struck by a hammer being used by his colleague to secure the clamp. The IP accidentally put his thumb in the area where the hammer was striking the clamp.



Mock up of event without hose in place

The IP sustained a significant injury that has required corrective surgery.

Corrective Actions:

- The use of hammers to assist in the closing of clamps is discouraged. The clamps are not designed to be secured using hammers, subsequently there is a risk of catastrophic failure. The use of hammers for this purpose is not permitted in Keller globally.
- Ensure that clamps are clear of concrete and that the hinge and lock mechanism are working freely, damaged or distorted clamps are not to be used. – Apply the 5S Shine principle when removing and storing clamps.
- Ensure that rubber seals are clean and correctly seated before closing clamps.

Recommendations:

Business unit risk assessments and method statements for securing hose clamps will be revised, please brief these to all colleagues involved in the activity.

A working group has been set up to identify alternative means to close clamp fittings. The initial prototype is illustrated below.



Remember 'Everyone is a Leader when it comes to Safety' and don't forget to 'Check Mate'.



For further information about this event, please do not hesitate to contact: [Simon Jones, HSEQ Manager \(NWE\)](#)