

ALERT GRINDER INCIDENT

An CRL employee suffered a severe cut to his face whilst using an angle grinder.

The employee was removing crash barriers. Part of his work involved the cutting of steel security plates that connected the barrier.

The employee was cutting the plate, from a prone position, when he lost control of the 5" grinder and the rotating blade struck his face.

Photo - Reconstruction of the employee's working position whilst cutting the steel plate



Recommendations:

- Small plant training should be provided with information and practical instruction on the use of hand-held power tools.
- PPE (face shields) with suitable impact resistance (to BS EN 166 (B)) must be worn when cutting metal.
- Operatives must be reminded that if circumstances on site change from what was envisaged within the safe systems of work, if they feel the operations are unsafe or if they believe there may be a safer way to carry out the operations then they must stop work and report their concerns or suggestions to their supervisor.
- The daily pre-shift briefing must cover specific risks and controls likely to be met on that shift.
- These points should be communicated by toolbox talks and leader's safety tours.

If you have any health and safety issues that you wish to discuss, contact your supervisor, line manager or Safety Advisor.

Remember there must be NO COMPROMISE where health and safety is concerned.