

# SAFETY ALERT

## SAFE TREMMIE PIPE ASSEMBLY IN PILING OPERATIONS

### Summary:

There has been a recent serious incident where a 12m long steel tremmie pipe assembly detached from its lifting cap and fell as it was being raised from the horizontal to a vertical position. A joint securing wire had been removed from the cap joint.

When a joint securing wire is removed, it is critical that any cap or units which are no longer connected are also completely removed to avoid any risk of lifting with an unformed joint.

Although it may be customary in the piling industry to lay tremmie pipe sub assemblies horizontally on the ground prior to lifting into a final position, this practice is now prohibited.



### Required Project Actions:

- All tremmie pipe assemblies must be connected using a tremmie rack and lifted vertically from this rack to their final location. Horizontal lay down of assemblies is forbidden.
- If connecting wires are removed, the elements must also be completely disconnected to indicate that the joint is no longer formed.
- This practice must be strictly enforced, as a vertical lift would precipitate any failure of the joint leaving any detached tremmie pipe to be retained by the tremmie rack.
- As always, all lifts must be controlled by trained and authorised slinger / signallers and follow the safe system of work defined in a method statement or schedule of common lifts
- Failure to observe an agreed safe system of work in lifting would normally lead to disciplinary action

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Let's all get home  
safely. Every day.