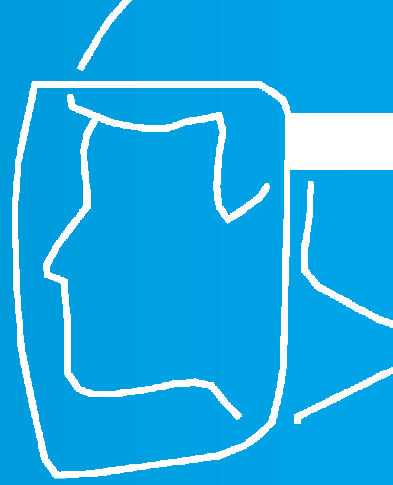


QHSE Work Safe! Home Safe!



17 November 2011
TW 1001

Health & Safety Management Of Sub Contractors

What is the danger?

A recent incident has highlighted the importance of always maintaining robust control over our sub-contracted workforce used within the business.

Incident Information

We have recently had an incident at a site where sub-contracted Lift engineers were working on a passenger and goods lift without isolating and locking off the power to the lighting system. This resulted in one of the engineers obtaining a severe electric shock and being taken to Hospital with serious burns to his hands and neck. Whilst the root cause(s) have not yet been fully established the incident highlights to MITIE the need to be ever vigilant when employing sub-contractors in accordance with our established procedures, carrying out the following:

- Assessment of sub-contractor competence, and assurance that they will not further sub-contract the work to other Companies without written approval from MITIE;
- Assurance that all operatives being used have the correct level of experience and qualification to carry out tasks
- Specific risk and method statements are supplied where required and reviewed by MITIE for adequacy and suitability
- Operatives are made aware by their Company of the risk and method statements and , if any variation to these occurs, work cannot proceed

Action required

In accordance with the established procedure, when monitoring sub-contractors we must ensure this is carried out in a robust manner taking into account the type of work they will be carrying out and the level of experience that they have in their field.

All risk and method statements must be specific to the tasks being carried out; the use of generic risk assessments is not recognised as being suitable and sufficient.

MITIE must ensure that risk assessment and method statements are reviewed by a competent person before work is allowed to be carried out. We must ensure that the operatives carrying out the task/s are made aware of the risk and method statements and understand the likely consequences and the environment that they are working within.

MITIE must ensure that sub-contractors who attend site/s on their behalf have carried out a Site Induction to make them aware of specific site or client requirements. Contractors must ensure that they clearly notify MITIE of their intention to attend site/s.

Sub-contractors must advise MITIE if they cannot follow or work to the risk and method statements issued and stop work immediately. Work must not continue until a safe system of work has been identified and specific documentation completed.

safety alert