

## Safety Bulletin

### Excavator Injury

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of December an operative was injured whilst securing a 14t long reach excavator onto a drag trailer. The operative sustained cuts to the bridge of his nose and forehead both requiring stiches. This incident had the potential to cause serious life changing injuries.

Whilst the investigation is still ongoing the factors below have been identified:

- Both the excavator operator and injured party knowingly worked within the swing radius of the long reach excavator.
- The excavator operators coat had hooked over the left control lever when he had accessed the cab. Once the 'dead mans' arm was lowered the excavator arm immediately slewed to the right contacting the injured party in the ribs and causing him fall and hit his head on the ground.
- The injured party is recovering well and is expected to be back at work soon.



#### REMEMBER –

- Never enter the exclusion zones around any item of plant unless they have been disabled and you have received the 'Thumb's up' (or similar approved acknowledgement) signal from the operator.
- Prior to starting any plant or equipment ensure that all controls are free from obstruction and not engaged in an operating position.

**'Be SAFE' - 'Let's All Go Home Safely'**