



# Caval Ridge Environment Safety and Health Near Miss / Incident Notification Flash Report

## **Brief description of incident:**

On Monday the 14th of October a Thies Earthworks Diesel Fitter was changing the cutting edges on a 140M grader at the Thies workshop. After changing the main cutting edges and the RHS overlay plate he was manoeuvring a bolt on the left hand overlay plate which had become unseated as he was tensioning up the bolts this final plate. He was using his right hand to pull on the threaded end of the bolt to align it with the retaining hole (the square edge on bolt has to be aligned for the bolt to seat properly in the edge) and he was also pushing on the head of the bolt with the palm of his left hand.

During this process of manoeuvring the bolt into position, his left hand, which was applying pressure to install the bolt, has slipped over the edge of the bolt resulting in his hand coming into contact with the sharp edge of the worn bolt. Although he was wearing gloves he has sustained a small cut to the fleshy part of his palm below the thumb. He was taken to the site medical facility where three sutures were applied. The worker has returned to normal duties.



## **Immediate Recommendations (investigation findings and controls pending)**

Investigation identified a JHA for changing cutting edges was in place and signed onto by the fitter but it did not identify the potential hazard of sharp edges when reusing the worn GET bolts and placing them by hand.

The JHA for changing ground engaging tools has been modified to reflect the additional hazard and the control that when old bolts are removed, they are to be inspected for condition, any identified as having a sharp edge on either the head or thread end are to be replaced.

Flash report prepared on 15/10/2013 at 08:00 hrs

