

ZHB15-15

Date: 20/07/2015

Working with Other People's Equipment



Latch disengaged here causing worker to fall to the ground resulting in a serious injury

What happened?

- A technician climbed an A Frame ladder to enter a residential property manhole. The ladder split open and he fell down hitting the floor with significant pressure to his ankles between the rungs of the ladder causing badly sprained ankles and jarring to his feet. The seriousness of the injury also resulted in time off work

Why did it happen?

- The worker failed to properly assess ladder and the risk whilst working with equipment that didn't belong to him
- The ladder had not been correctly set up and locked into position
- The worker was not familiar with equipment as it was borrowed ladder from a co worker

Action required:

Remember:

- Before using any ladder you must visually check it prior to each use. A person should only use a ladder if competent to do so. The daily inspection does not have to be recorded but should pick up obvious defects such as:
 - cracked or bent stiles or rungs
 - corrosion
 - locking mechanism in good working order
 - defective or missing fittings

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Discuss at next available pre-start meeting/post on notice boards – (valid for 3 months) 20/10/2015