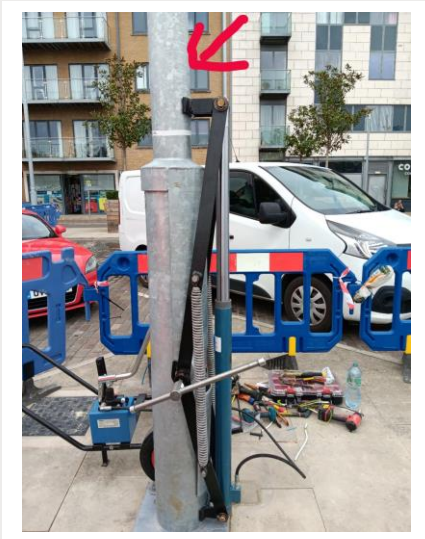


# STOPThink! Finger Injury



Lighting column in upright position.  
Red arrow indicates where the finger was pinched.

## What happened?

A minor injury occurred on one of our re-wire/re-light projects at Dorchester South Station. An electrician was positioning a hydraulic jack to raise up an 8 metre light column. His colleague was operating the hydraulics. As the hydraulics were being raised to bring the supporting pad up to meet the horizontal column at the start of the lift, the electrician was guiding it into place. His little finger was pinched between the pad and the column. He was wearing full PPE at the time including cut 5/C gloves. The wearing of the gloves, likely reduced the severity of the injury.

The electricians on site had been trained on the use of this equipment but received refresher training the morning following the event.

## Impacts

- The electrician suffered a small laceration to his finger.
- The electrician received first aid on site and was taken to hospital as a precaution and had 2 steri-strips applied and a tetanus jab. He returned to work the following morning.

## Immediate action

1. Review site operations and highlight areas where there is a risk of entrapment of hands/fingers.
2. If items of plant and equipment need to be supported during works, review the methodology to remove the requirement for items being held by hand.
3. Remind personnel that hands should be removed from the danger area at all times while plant and equipment is moving.
4. **Consider, what would be the impact on your life if you lost a finger as a result of a similar event?**

See below for examples of devices which enable items to be stabilised or controlled, whilst removing hands from the risk of entrapment.

