Safe at heart
I care. You count. We matter.

Lessons Learned

Auger Lifting High Potential Incident

Date and time of incident	06/09/2023 @ 13.30 hrs	Incident type	High Potential (HiPO)
Incident ref number	INC16782	Contractor	SB3
Sublot	Delta	Location	Watton House Embankment
Keyword search	Lifting	Reported by	Stuart Cormack

⚠ Summary of Incident

During a lifting activity, a 15t excavator was lifting a 360mm x 6m auger, estimated 750kg, which separated from the lifting cap. The Auger in the vertical position was lifted 500mm above ground level and was tracked a short distance. It then separated, dropped to the ground on its end, then pivoted towards and struck the excavator. The machine sustained damage to the handrail/walkway. There were no injuries. The lift team were in a place of safety and the area was under control of the Slinger/Signaller.

Lessons Learned

When lifting augers, the planning and delivery must ensure the use of correctly designed retaining pins. The pins supplied to secure the lifting cap in the case of this incident did not have a retaining mechanism, consequently during the lift when oriented in a specific direction the pins could come loose and fall out.
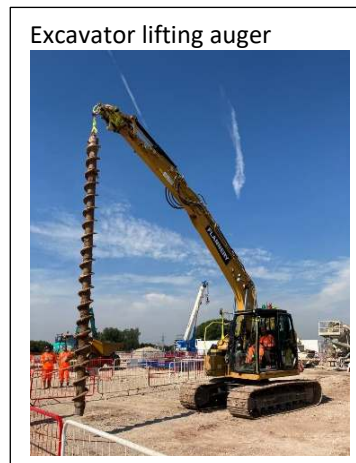
Actions

- New pin design now supplied with retaining 'R clip' to prevent accidental release. A secondary control measure of a choke chain on the auger is also used.
- Increased size excavator now deployed to ease height reach issues
- Lift Plan revised to include specific detail related to excavator lifting in this restricted headroom area
- Specific Task Brief for auger removal and replacement has been developed with the team and communicated

Golden Behaviours

PRP & Habits - The team did not fully appreciate the risk for the auger to separate from the lifting cap, 40 piles had been successfully achieved
Let's Talk – The team required to communicate to plan the lift more effectively, the Pins condition and placement became an issue which should have meant Stop, Take 5 and review on site.

☒ Personal Risk Perception   ☐ Alpha Sleep   ☐ Time vs Risk

☐ Let's Talk   ☒ 21 Habits   ☐ Lead by Example

🖼 Photographs

Excavator lifting auger

New Design of Retaining Pin

✔ Actions Complete

Please confirm using the QR code that all actions have been completed