

STOPThink!

Injury to foot from nail



Penetration wound to sole of foot.



Correct specification of safety footwear
Note that the label references 'S3'.

What happened?

A supply chain operative working on behalf of Octavius was working in the area around the east abutment of the M25 overbridge on the River Mole.

Whilst in the course of their duties, the operative stood on a nail protruding from some timber that had been left behind following previous works by others. The nail penetrated the sole of the operative's safety boot and caused an injury.

First aid was administered and the operative was taken to hospital to be checked. The operative rested the following day and returned to his normal duties the day after.

Actions to consider

- As soon as timber is removed from use, nails and screws should either be removed or knocked down to make them safe.
- Ensure that you have the correct levels of protection on your safety footwear. The label on the inside of a work boot should detail 'S3'. This confirms that the boot has midsole protection as well as other required safety measures.
- Utilise the point of work risk assessment (POWRA) to help identify hazards immediately before works commence so that they can be removed or controlled.
- Do not wait for others to clear debris from previous works. Review work areas and take action to make the area safe to work in.
- If you have any concerns or questions, "STOPThink!" and consult with your Supervisor or your Safety representative.

