STOPThink! Environmental Incident







Damage to the vehicle fuel tank



Aftermath of the diesel spill

What Happened?

On 23/10/24 Octavius were undertaking works to the central reservation of the A133 Eastbound. Full TM is in place with Lane 2 closed and a safety barrier installed. Works planned for this shift included surfacing within the central reservation.

An Asphalt delivery lorry entered the Traffic Management at approximately 11am and whilst proceeding down lane 2, caught the safety barrier which damaged the fuel tank of the vehicle resulting in diesel escaping on to the carriageway. This has subsequently run below the safety barrier into the live lane 1. All traffic was stopped, and the road closed to effect the clean up operation.

What we know

- This was a planned delivery of asphalt to the site.
- All traffic management had been laid out in accordance with the specified drawings.
- The driver of the vehicle was not under the influence of any substances.
- The driver of the vehicle had not been inducted onto the works.
- In an attempt to avoid a rut in the central reservation the driver veered towards the safety barrier and subsequently collide with it, damaging the vehicles fuel tank.

Actions taken

- Traffic stopped and the road was closed with an interim diversionary route.
- An extended emergency road closure was sought and approved should it have been required.
- The site team and supply chain took immediate action using spill kits and gel granules to contain the fuel and prevent any potential access to watercourses or other receptors.
- The 3rd party environmental clean up contractor was dispatched to the site to commence the clean up operation.
- The Octavius team and supply chain proceeded to strip out the contaminated carriageway and relay fresh asphalt.
- The carriageway was reopened to traffic at 19.00 23/10/24.
- Investigation commenced.

What you must do

- All delivery drivers entering live traffic managed work areas must have received a driver's induction to the site prior to entering.
- Ensure that scheduled delivery information is communicated to all those involved in the task.
- Ensure that drivers of delivery vehicles have controlled access by way of scheduled delivery times authorised by Octavius.
- Ensure that delivery vehicles are marshalled through the works and guided where required avoiding having to veer off the established route through the lane closure.
- Ensure that there are suitable and sufficient competent marshalling resources for the deliveries.
- Ensure that all the "Stop Think Fundamentals" are in place prior to undertaking any
 works.
- If in any doubt whatsoever about what action to take "Stop Think" and consult your Line Manager or Safety Advisor.

