

## LV electric strike – 33 Coley Hill, Reading, Berks, RG1 6AE

\* On the 22nd October 2015 a KCD R&M team were undertaking the replacement of an existing stop tap for a new atlas unit. They had CAT'd the area in and around an already open excavation (Dug by national Grid ,GAS).

\* The team identified what they thought to be a water service as it appeared to be made of a lead material. The team leader then cut the service with a pair of hand held pipe cutters

\* At this point there was a flash and a realisation by the team that they cut what is now known to be a lead encased electrical cable

## What can I do differently / better?

- NEVER make an assumption that metal exteriors denote water service
- Use both CAT and GENNY (THEY CAN PROTECT YOU) when used correctly
- Share the findings and experience through communication at all levels to hopefully prevent a re-occurrence

## Causation

- Team thought that as material seen was lead then it was the water service
- Assumptions made with out further checking
- CAT was but not sufficiently to denote existence that service was in fact electrical
- There was no internal check at property although access was granted
- CAT was only used in power mode and genny was not used

