



## ALERT

### Pressure Wash Accident

#### What Happened:

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September at C510 Whitechapel, an accident occurred when an operative was removing a ¾” bagging from the inlet of a Kärcher Professional HD 9/20-4M pressure washer. The IP turned off the water feed and released the pressure at the lance as normal. As the IP went to disconnect the water feed from the pressure washer, boiling water sprayed back from inside the pressure washer causing scalds to their hands. The IP was treated by the first aider on site and then taken to A&E.

As a precautionary measure, C510 suspended further use of the model HD 9/20-4M until the conclusion of their investigation has been reached. In the interim alternative equipment has been sourced.



Model: Kärcher Professional HD 9/20-4M

#### Future Considerations:

- This hazard is specific to the Kärcher Professional HD 9/20-4M.
- The Operating Manual for the HD 9/20 does explain that there is:  
*‘Danger of scalding by means of hot water. The water remaining in the switched off device can get heated up. When you remove the hose from the water inlet, the heated water can spray out and cause scalding. Remove the hose only when the device has cooled down’*  
The manufacturer has been contacted to clarify this text, in particular about the cooling down period.
- In the meantime be aware of the possibility of this hazard and please ensure the pressure washer has cooled down before removing the water feed.
- Further to this, discussions are to be had with the manufacturer to gain more understanding of the equipment and considerations. An additional update will be issued if required.