



Incident Removing Penstock

Penstock crushed Field Service Engineer's (FSE) finger



During a shutdown to remove penstocks from an inlet chamber one of the penstocks closed on the FSE's finger during the lifting operation.

The operation to remove the penstock was being undertaken with the assistance of a contract lift. The slings were attached to the hand wheel and headstock assembly through which the penstock spindle is turned.

The Injured Person (IP) inadvertently placed his right hand in the gap between the gate and frame, arrowed, and tugged on the gate, pulling the complete assembly off the remaining studs.

With no means of support, the frame slid down the suspended gate crushing the IP's index finger.

This resulted in a compound fracture to the index finger on the right hand with three other bones also broken on the same finger.

Further information:

 All parts of a load need to be supported to avoid two parts moving past one another.

Issued to: Ww Services, Water and Scientific Services, Programme Services, Engineering, Renewable Energy and Total Solutions

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