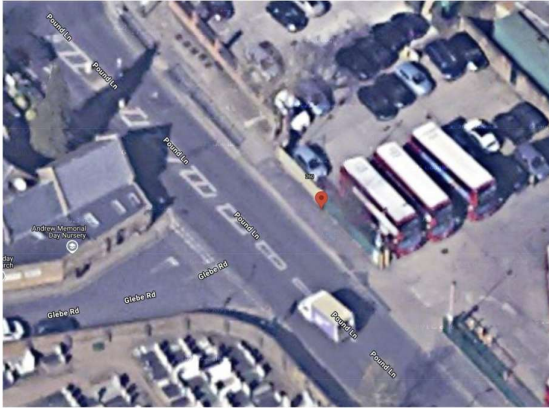


SAFETY ALERT

December 2024

Gas Leak – Unit 15 Pound Lane Willesden Green Brent



The Operative attended the column to carry out a combined Electrical / Structural Inspection & Test, the works were carried out in line with the Safe Systems of Works, once all testing was completed the operative inserted the fuse into the cutout, at this stage a spark from the fuse ignited a fire in the base compartment of the column, the fire extinguished itself.

Events Leading to the incident

- It is believed a minor Gas Leak identified by Cadent after the incident had caused a build up of natural gas in the column base compartment
- The spark generated from the load when reinserting the DNO fuse carrier was sufficient to ignite a small flash fire

Why was this not identified?

- Natural gas would usually produce an odour recognisable Without the need for any testing
- The location of the column adjacent to a bus depot was a contributing factor due to the strong smell of diesel from the adjacent activities masking the gas



What could be done differently!

- Further manual checks considering the location and surrounding environment
- Use of gas detectors

The Operative was wearing full Flame Retardant / ARC Resistant PPE and there were no personal injuries caused by this incident

