

# SAFETY ALERT

September 2016  
Ref 023 16

## Ringway Worcestershire – Leg Fracture

**Date:** 05 September 2016

**Time:** 09.15hrs

**Division:** Ringway Worcestershire

**Location:** Stanford depot, A449 Worcester Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire

The injured party was inspecting packed road signs out of their frames within the depot stores. The signs were stored upright against a metal cage. Following the inspection, he placed the signs against the cage and turned around. During this process the signs bounced against the cage and fell towards him, pinning his leg against a stack of boxes. He called for help and was assisted by two operatives who freed him by lifting the signs off his leg and got medical support. He was then taken to A&E and the findings were he has chipped the top of his tibia and there is further concern regarding damaged knee ligaments resulting in a full leg plaster being applied.

A full incident investigation is underway to identify the root causes, preventative and corrective actions.

**Q1 is there a potential for the same incident to happen in your depots or stores?** Individual items may not pose a significant risk. However, when they are stored with others the risk level changes, especially when they are being removed for use or inspection. This applies to all items that are stored in multiple numbers eg kerbs, slabs, columns etc.

**Q2 are all materials stored in a way that individual units can be removed without the risk of the others becoming unstable?** The use of securing straps, storage racks or other means of preventing the materials falling needs to be considered.

**Q3 are materials stored safely?** Consider access to the materials, impact on pedestrian or traffic routes. This is an opportunity for a review of material storage across the business.



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