



Safety Alert

Impact Protection Vehicle Cone Well Cover Failure

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The following page of this safety alert was issued by:

Chevron

NHa350

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IPV Cone Well Cover Failure

Incident Summary:



An agency operative working on his company supplied IPV suffered a trapping injury to his ankle due to the cone well cover collapsing and trapping his ankle against the structure of the vehicle.

The cone well cover was missing the hinges which connects the cover to the IPV body structure, and as there was no other mechanic means fixing the cover to the body, it fell into the well area below the bed of the vehicle.

The investigation identified that the cone well was in a poor state of repair. The defects with the cone well had not been reported at any time prior to the incident through the vehicle pre-use check process, or through periodic vehicle inspections undertaken by third party maintenance companies.

The vehicle involved was 9 years old, and whilst maintained in a roadworthy condition, there were no considerations given to the elevated risk of component failure on ageing assets.

Learning Points:

- ✓ The condition of Cone Well covers must be regarded as safety critical similar to other types of work at height platform and have suitable inspection and maintenance regimes in place to ensure that they are safe to use.
- ✓ Vehicle Pre-use checks should include cone well covers as a specific checklist item and not to assume that they are being checked under general items such as the condition of the floor or body.
- ✓ Those in control of fleet need to consider the risks from use of ageing vehicles and mitigate the increased risks of fatigue or component failure through more frequent and vigorous inspection and maintenance regimes.