

Trip injury over protruding steelwork on grating

Safety Alert

What happened?

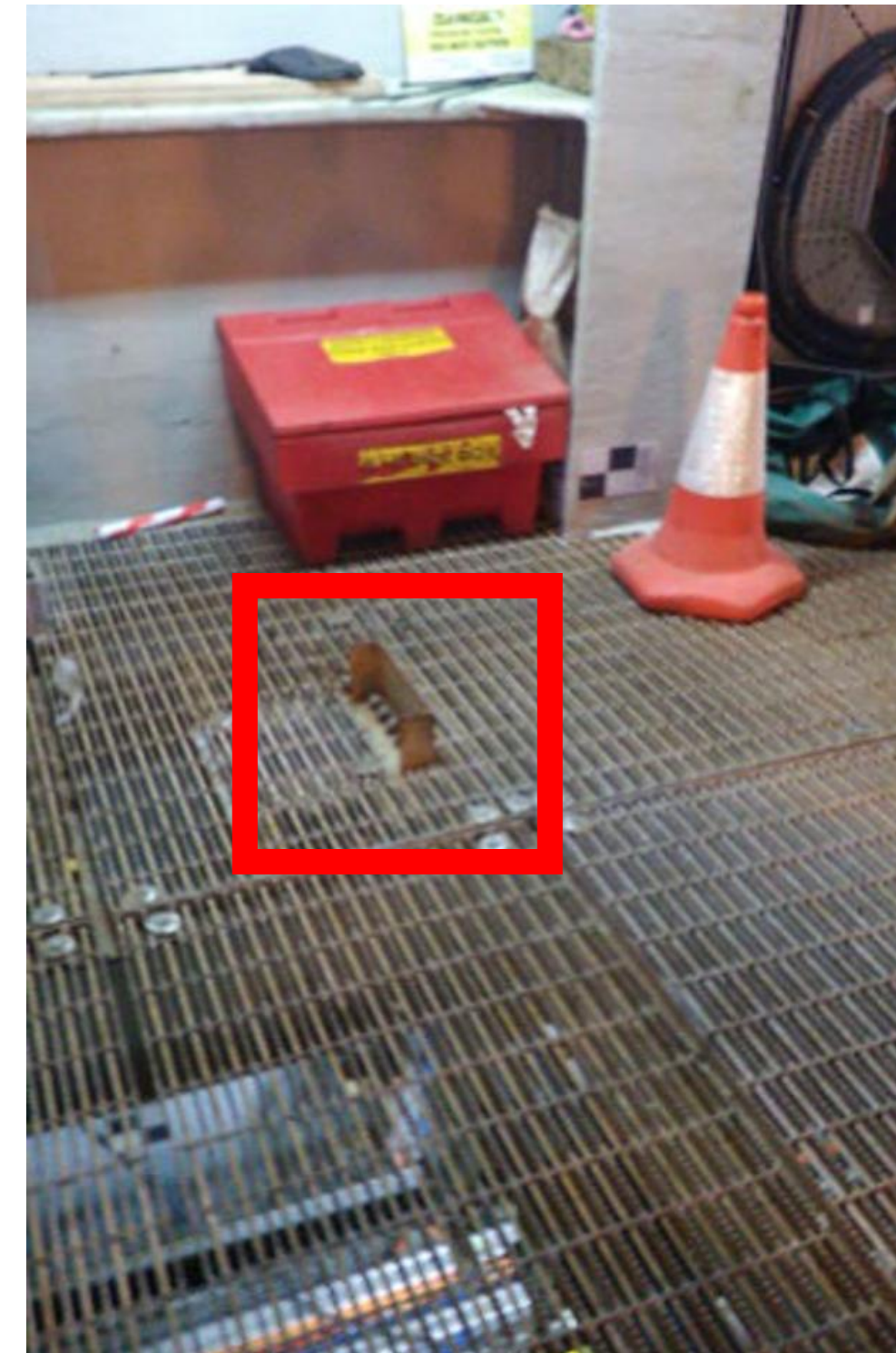
During housekeeping for scaffold erection, a worker turned within the work area and tripped over a steel kick plate protruding through deck grating. The worker reported lower-back pain and received treatment from the installation medic.

Findings:

- > The protrusion was a known infrastructure hazard retained for future instrument-tubing penetrations.
- > Traffic cones were used as a temporary control, but they were unsecured and could be moved.
- > The cone was not in place when the work began, and the specific local trip hazard was not highlighted.
- > Routine exposure had allowed the hazard to become normalised.

Good practice guidance:

- > Identify and discuss specific local hazards during toolbox talks and Dynamic Risk Assessments
- > Verify temporary controls are present, correctly positioned and effective before work starts and throughout the task.
- > Stop work and report hazards when controls are missing, moved, damaged or ineffective.
- > Where hazards cannot be eliminated, challenge easily displaced controls and seek more robust engineering or administrative solutions.



Steelwork protruding through deck grating



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Verification of learnings shared and feedback

To ensure this learning leads to meaningful improvement, follow the Plan Do Check Act process and provide your feedback to Step Change in Safety.

Plan

Review the learning and assess how it applies to your organisation, work area or tasks.

Identify any risks, gaps, or required changes to current procedures.



Do

Implement necessary actions - communicate changes, update procedures, and ensure everyone affected understands their responsibility.



Check

Monitor the effectiveness of the changes. Observe work practices, gather feedback, and verify that the learnings have been understood and applied correctly.



Act

Make any needed adjustments based on what you've learned.

Share lessons with your team, document improvements and feedback to Step Change in Safety.



Safety Alert

Share your learnings and feedback.
Your proactive engagement helps create a safer workplace for everyone.



Feedback Form

Link to [Resource Feedback Form](#)



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