

SAFETY ALERT- 3rd Party

What Happened?

Incident Date: 06/11/2019

Details:

- Crew were completing connections to properties when one operative noted that windows in the site van were dark and could not see into the vehicle.
- User of the vehicle approached the vehicle and opened the driver's door which released a cloud of smoke from within the vehicle.
- The vehicle was not burning but likely to have self-extinguished at the time.
- Windows in vehicle had remained closed while vehicle was not in use. Likely starved fire of oxygen.
- Vehicle hire company collected their vehicle for further investigation.

Pictures:



First picture showing damaged to singed/burnt seat.

While the second shows the interior of door panel severely melted as a result of heat.

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Causation:

Immediate Cause:

- Battery under vehicle seat had made contact with object resulting in some combustion.

How/Why

- Battery not covered as per manufactures specification.
- Works (retro fitting of hazard lights) had been carried out to the vehicle by the Hire Company.

Immediate Action Taken:

- Vehicle door closed when discovery of smoke from cab of vehicle.
- Fire extinguisher got from rear of vehicle while re-opening drivers door investigating damage and encase of combustion.
- Supervisors alerted of incident.
- Vehicle Hire Company contacted in relation to damage to vehicle. Vehicle removed

Learning Points:

- Retro fitting of axillary devices that require connection to battery to be completed by competent persons.
- Ensure plant machinery arriving to site has thorough inspection report.

STOP WORK IF IN ANY DOUBT AND CONTACT YOUR SITE SUPERVISOR