

SAFETY ALERT



Semi-Automatic Quick-Hitch Safety Alert

Revision:1

Document No: **IW-HSQE-SA-52**

Approved By: James Cullen

1. What Happened?

A safety pin came loose on a semi-automatic quick - hitch system which inadvertently opened the retaining mechanism and caused the excavator bucket to disconnect from the machine and fall approximately 1ft to the ground. No injuries were sustained during the incident.



2. Immediate Actions

- Works ceased onsite.
- Safety pin and linch pin was inserted correctly, and the machine was removed from site so a thorough inspection could be completed on the machine.

3. Further Actions

- The Health & Safety Authority (HSA) issued advise in 2017, that it now considers that the supply and use of semi- automatic quick hitches is not in

SAFETY ALERT



Semi-Automatic Quick-Hitch Safety Alert

Revision:1

Document No: **IW-HSQE-SA-52**

Approved By: James Cullen

compliance with the relevant legislation and consequently semi-automatic quick - hitches must not be supplied for sale because they are not considered to be compliant with the Machinery Directive and arrangements need to be made to remove semi-automatics from service. Further information can be found via the link below:

https://www.hsa.ie/eng/News_Events_Media/News/News_and_Articles/Use_of_semi-automatic_quick_hitches_on_excavators.html

4. Further Information

For further information on this safety alert please contact hsqe@water.ie

5. Distribution list

Internal		
Asset Operations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Asset Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Asset Management <input type="checkbox"/>
All IW Staff <input type="checkbox"/>		
Other Please Specify _____		

External		
Local Authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DBO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resident Engineers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
All Asset Delivery Contractors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Other Please Specify - Plant Hire Framework		