Collapse of concrete flooring during construction

WHAT HAPPENED

An incident recently occurred during the construction phase of a housing development. A precast concrete hollowcore flooring slab fell from first floor level onto the ground below. No persons were injured.

Whilst investigations are still ongoing, it appears that there were only two probable causes for the occurrence:

(i) Failure of the bearing (reason unknown), or
(ii) The slab being dislodged from its bearing.

Through a detailed study of process data and product testing the investigation has concluded that the incident was not a result of product failure.



Fig. 1 - Damaged slap on ground



Fig. 2 - Supporting masonry

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

All construction workers should be reminded of the dangers associated with working in the vicinity of semi or recently installed structures.

Workers should understand what constitutes a potentially vulnerable position.

Responsible persons should be reminded of the importance of carrying out suitable and sufficient pre / post installation inspection (with should include ensuring no damage in transit or installation and the suitability of load bearing points)

LOCATION:	**CONCRETE PRODUCTS PLANT**	**ALERT STATUS:**	**Normal**
ACTIVITY:	**LIFTING**	**DATE ISSUED:**	**29/07/2016 12:16:52**
SUB ACTIVITY:	**NO SUB ACTIVITY AVAILABLE**	**INCIDENT No:**	**01437**