Near Miss - Falling Object

WHAT HAPPENED

During a maintenance task on a piece of fixed plant, a Fitter was replacing a steel wear plate at the top of an aggregate elevator at a height of 33 metres.

When the Fitter came to adjust the plate a sliver of metal fell through an open mesh and landed directly below on a platform where an operative was performing a greasing task close by.

Had the strip of Hardox steel plate struck the employee, there would have been a potential for serious injury.

Incident facts:
- The RAMS for the task noted cutting the steel plate at ground level, and not at height.

- The task changed during the activity and not been noted on the Risk Assessment.

- No cordoned zone was established below when the task changed and no checks made by the fitter.

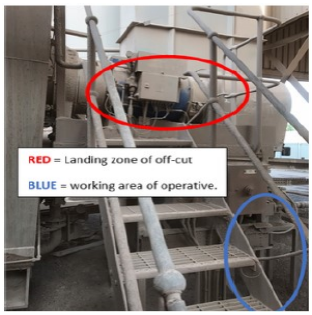
- The off-cut fell through open mesh flooring at height, missing an operative by 1 metre.

- The Fitter did not advise site Management of the task change but proceeded anyway.

- RAMS controls became ineffective as a result.

- Permit to Work - Hot works became ineffective





LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

- Fitter re-inducted and trained in the process to follow.

- Review of contractual relationship with fitting contractor.

- Local Management re-trained in the Risk Assessment process.

- Implementation of a mid-task checklist for supervisory staff to carry out and audit checks during completion.

LOCATION:	**ASPHALT/COATING PLANT**	**ALERT STATUS:**	**Normal**
ACTIVITY:	**MAINTENANCE & HOUSEKEEPING**	**DATE ISSUED:**	**12/08/2020 10:46:56**
SUB ACTIVITY:	**N/A**	**INCIDENT No:**	**02566**