

SAFETY ALERT

The below information has been issued on behalf of the EFFC to make others aware of the potential risks and possible precautions to take in order to avoid these.



Date/Time of Incident:

14/10/2021
Click here to enter text.

Type of Incident:

Falling

Nature of Incident/Injury:

Falling over and suffering bruising to the upper arm, no lost time was incurred.

Details of Incident:

A 450mm auger was 15 meters into the ground and disconnected from the rig. The auger remained vertically stored for a period of two weeks before being back screwed and removed from the ground. On the removal an operative stepped onto a soft spot created by the auger removal, which collapsed inwards under his weight. This resulted in the operative falling over and suffering bruising to upper arm. No lost time incurred.



Root cause (if known):

The investigation concluded the area around the auger removal had been insufficiently backfilled. This exacerbated by a period of extremely wet weather, resulted in the ground around it collapsing inwards when stepped on.

Action Taken:

Following any auger being extracted from vertical storage, the location shall be suitably backfilled and compacted by an excavator.

Lessons Learnt:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Following any auger being extracted from vertical storage, the location shall be suitably backfilled and compacted by an excavator.

On completion of backfilling, it should be noted the ground consolidation takes time. Therefore, measure should be taken to ensure the drilled location is physically fenced off a minimum of a further 24hrs and monitored. Should the ground further subside during this period, further backfilling of the location is required until no further ground collapse occurs during the following 24hrs period. These checks should be carried out by the piling supervisor.

Restriction to the drilled location should only be realised upon the confirmation of sufficient ground condition following a 24hr period of monitoring.