

Subject: **MANUAL HANDLING - ACCIDENT**

What's Happened?

One of our Operatives has badly injured his ankle and has now had 5 days off work as a result of his injuries.

How Did It Happen?

It happened on site, where the operative concerned was in the process of **manually handling** cut branches and brash from the chip site to the cut site. During this process the operative stepped on a stray rock resulting in him stumbling and falling to the ground. As a result of this accident, the operative has suffered soft tissue damage to his left ankle and is unsure when he will be able to return to work.



Recommendations and Lessons to be Learnt:

- Always include **Manual Handling** in your **Risk Assessment**
- **RISK ASSESSMENT : AVOID / PREVENT / MINIMISE**
- Remember **TILE!!**
 - T** - Task - consider the task as a whole, what / where / how
 - I** - Individual - consider your size / strength / capabilities / training
 - L** - Load - consider weight / bulk / visibility (over or around the load)
 - E** - Environment - consider lighting / surface / terrain / space / obstruction / loose objects on pathway
- Always ensure your **Safety Footwear is fitted and laced properly to offer full protection** and consider below:
 - Walk in new footwear to ensure it is comfortable
 - Boots should have ample toe room
 - Make allowances for extra socks when trying boots
 - Boots should fit snugly around the heel and ankle when laced
 - Lace up boots fully