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Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

Checking for possible fuel leakage on petrol engine Partner rail disc saws

This bulletin is for the attention of;

Line & Project Managers, Engineering Supervisors, COSS's and Rail Disc Saw operators.

Background

Following a recent incident where a Partner rail disc saw caught fire, the basic fuel leakage checks listed below should be undertaken after every refuelling and before the saw is used.

1. In a ventilated, but not windy area, clear of any sources of possible ignition, fill the disc saw fuel tank using a funnel to the full mark. Insert the filler cap – hand tight only. NB only dark grey coloured filler caps should be used. Yellow coloured fuel tank caps should not be used and should be replaced/discarded. Wipe any excess fuel from fuel tank.



2. Place disc saw on a clean strip of blue roll paper in an upright position. Leave to stand for a few minutes.
3. Check for any visible leakage or any liquid droplets forming on the paper. Wipe the fuel tank area again using a piece of clean blue roll paper – check the wiping paper for any signs of liquid being absorbed – damp dark blue areas on the blue roll paper.
4. If there is any sign of leakage, take the disc saw out of service and place into quarantine.
5. Properly dispose of the used blue roll paper.

General safety precautions – allow the saw to cool before refuelling. Carefully release any fuel tank pressure when refuelling. Do not drop the saw; always ensure that it is standing upright, preferably in its carry box whilst in transit. Do not let the saw roll about whilst it is in a road vehicle. Promptly wipe any accidental fuel spillages and be aware of the possibility that fuel may have been adsorbed by your PPE.

For further information see: NR/L3/MTC/0001/GA064 Risk Control Sheet: Decanting fuel and fuelling small plant.

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