

Company fined after worker injured

A manufacturer of agricultural equipment has been fined after a worker suffered two broken legs when a stack of metal sheets fell onto his ankles.

High Wycombe Magistrates' Court heard how an employee of K Two Sales Ltd accessed the rear of a guillotine to measure some off-cuts. There were around 20 sheets of 4mm thickness stacked on top of each other. He tried to remove one of them causing the whole stack to fall on him.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) into the incident, which occurred on 10 January 2017, found the steel sheets were being stored without adequate means to prevent them from falling.

K Two Sales Ltd of Station Road, Haddenham, Bucks pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of the Health & Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and has been fined £22,000 and ordered to pay full costs of £1,647.20.

Speaking after the case, HSE inspector Stephen Faulkner said: "This injury could have easily been prevented had the risk should have been identified.

"Companies should be aware that HSE will not hesitate to take appropriate enforcement action against those that fall below the required standards".

Notes to Editors:

1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety. We prevent work-related death, injury and ill health through regulatory actions that range from influencing behaviours across whole industry sectors through to targeted interventions on individual businesses. These activities are supported by globally recognised scientific expertise. hse.gov.uk
2. More about the legislation referred to in this case can be found at: legislation.gov.uk/ and www.hse.gov.uk/pUbns/priced/hsg246.pdf
3. HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>

Journalists should approach HSE press office with any queries on regional press releases.