

Manufacturing company fined after worker suffered multiple electrical burns

Glassflake Ltd has been sentenced after an employee received an electric shock while working inside a transformer cabinet.

Leeds Magistrates' Court heard that, on the 7 June 2019, the worker was changing tappings on a transformer, which serves the tanks which melt glass, at a factory on Forster Street, Leeds.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that he was working on the transformer supplying current to an electric heating element. He was found unconscious inside the rear of the transformer, with the transformer not isolated. His torch and spanner were on the floor of the cabinet, and he had significant burns to his chin and the back of his head consistent with an electric shock passing from his chin to the side of the cabinet.

Glassflake Ltd of Forster Street, Leeds, West Yorkshire pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 3 (1) (a) of the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989. The company has been fined £30,000 and ordered to pay £693.62 in costs.

After the hearing, HSE inspector Julian Franklin commented: "Working on live electrical systems exposes workers to significant risk of electric shock and should be avoided if reasonably practical".

"This incident could so easily have been avoided by simply carrying out the correct control measures, primarily by isolating the power supply first.

"HSE will not hesitate to take appropriate enforcement action against those responsible for electrical work that put their workers at risk."

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^[1]
2. More about the legislation referred to in this case can be found at: legislation.gov.uk/^[2]
3. HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>^[3]
4. For more information on how to work safely around electricity, please

visit here: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/toolbox/electrical.htm>

The post [Manufacturing company fined after worker suffered multiple electrical burns](#) appeared first on [HSE Media Centre](#).

[Construction company fined after an employee dies after being run over by a dumper truck](#)

BAM Nuttall Limited has been fined after an employee was run over by a dumper vehicle.

Inverness Sheriff Court heard that on 28 October 2016, at Blackhillock Substation, Keith, then under construction, Mr John Cameron was changing over a blade on a piece of work equipment at the side of a roadway when he was run over by a six-tonne dumper truck. Mr Cameron sustained serious pelvic injuries and died as a result.



An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that Bam Nuttall Limited failed to adequately assess the risks to their employees whilst they were repairing and replacing equipment. They failed to provide a system of work in relation to this task which defined a place or places where such work could be carried out safely and which segregated people from vehicles.

BAM Nuttall Limited of St James House, Knoll Road, Camberley, Surrey, pleaded guilty to breaching Sections 2 and 33(1)(a) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and was fined £700,000.

After the hearing, HSE inspector, Penny Falconer said: "This tragic incident led to the avoidable death of a man.

"This death could easily have been prevented if his employer had acted to identify and manage the risks involved, and to put a safe system of work in

place.”

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4. For more information on working safely with vehicles at work, please visit: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/workplacetransport/>

The post [Construction company fined after an employee dies after being run over by a dumper truck](#) appeared first on [HSE Media Centre](#).

[Textiles manufacturer fined after employee suffers serious burns at work](#)

A textiles manufacturer was fined after a worker was seriously injured when he was covered by hot dye and steam during a maintenance job at the company’s site in Alfreton, Derbyshire.

South Derbyshire Magistrates’ Court heard how, on 4 June 2019, a maintenance worker was checking a fault on an industrial dye pressure vessel, used to dye long lengths of fabric, after steam had been seen coming from the main drain vent. A valve was slightly open and air lines were removed and replaced in incorrect positions, which caused the valve to instantly open releasing 6,000 litres of hot dye liquor. The employee suffered 20 per cent burns to his body including both arms, legs and buttocks.



An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that Guilford Europe Ltd did not have effective procedures in place for fault-finding when employees encountered a problem with machinery. There were no instructions to employees on what constituted fault-finding or at what stage, isolation of the plant was required. Neither was there any requirement for a permit system for undertaking maintenance on pressure systems. There was also an insufficient level of monitoring in place to review maintenance operations to ensure employees were working safely.

Guilford Europe Ltd of Cotes Park Industrial Estate, Somercotes, Alfreton, Derbyshire pleaded guilty of breaching Section 2(1) of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974. They were fined £100,000 and ordered to pay costs of £3,751.60.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Leigh Stanley, said: "Those in control of work have a responsibility to devise safe methods of working and to provide the necessary information, instruction and training to their workers.

"If a suitable safe system of work had been in place prior to the incident, the life changing injuries sustained by the employee could have been prevented."

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The post [Textiles manufacturer fined after employee suffers serious burns at](#)

[work](#) appeared first on [HSE Media Centre](#).

[Unregistered gas engineer sentenced after multiple breaches](#)

A self-employed gas engineer has been sentenced after carrying out illegal gas work and breaching a HSE Prohibition Notice.

Bournemouth Crown Court heard how Dean Coslett trading as Dorset Boiler Company, undertook gas work at a number of properties in Dorset between December 2017 and April 2019 whilst he was not registered with the Gas Safe Register. Mr Coslett used false Gas Safe Register registration numbers on paperwork he issued and left gas appliances incorrectly installed.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that Dean Coslett had not installed a number of gas appliances to the correct safety standards. On 12 September 2018, HSE served Dean Coslett with a Prohibition Notice prohibiting him from undertaking gas work whilst not registered with the Gas Safe Register. However, he breached this Prohibition Notice by continuing to undertake unregistered gas work.

Dean Coslett of Sevenoaks Drive, Bournemouth pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 3(3) and 3(7) of the Gas Safety (installation and Use) Regulations 1998 and Section 33(1)(g) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. He was sentenced to a three-year community supervision order, ordered to undertake 200 hours unpaid work and undertake 30 days of offender rehabilitation work. He was also ordered to pay £900 compensation to a number of homeowners for the substandard work he undertook at their homes.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Simon Jones said: “Dean Coslett undertook gas work, which he knew he was not registered to do and flagrantly breached an order prohibiting him from undertaking gas work whilst he was not registered. All gas work must be done by registered Gas Safe engineers to ensure the highest standards are met to prevent injury and loss of life.”

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[Unregistered gas engineer sentenced for illegal gas work](#)

Unregistered gas fitter Dean Mulholland Blues has been sentenced after putting lives at risk by carrying out illegal gas work at several properties in the north east.

Newcastle Crown Court heard that, from September 2016 to December 2017, the defendant advertised his 'services' on various social media sites using false names, several telephone numbers and at least three bank accounts to evade detection. His illegal gas work put lives at risk from carbon monoxide poisoning, asphyxiation, fire and explosion due to his poor workmanship.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that the defendant has never been registered with Gas Safe Register, nor was he competent to carry out gas work.

Dean Mulholland Blues of Annand Way, Newton Aycliffe pleaded guilty to 24 breaches of the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998. He was sentenced to a 3 year custodial sentence and was disqualified from being the director of a company for 12 years.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Jonathan Wills said: "Anyone employed to work on gas appliances in domestic premises must be a Gas Safe registered engineer and competent in that area of gas work. The gas engineer's competencies are clearly marked on the back of the back of the engineer's Gas Safe Register ID card. If in any doubt you can contact the Gas Safe Register or check their website to see if the engineer is registered."

He added: "If anyone has had any gas work carried out by Mr Blues, I urge them to ensure that the work is now checked by a registered Gas Safe Register engineer as soon as possible."

Notes to editors:

1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety. We reduce work-related death, injury and ill health. It does so through research, information and advice, promoting training; new or revised regulations and codes of practice, and working with local authority partners by inspection, investigation and enforcement. www.hse.gov.uk
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