

TES24-253 v1.0



Lessons learned - Worksite confusion and miscommunication led to two irregular OTM movements



WHAT HAPPENED?

A SPICOP authorised two separate on track machine (OTM) movements to take place without a clear understanding of the worksite limits.

One OTM movement was outside of a worksite but the SPICOP thought that the worksite limit was one mile further north. The driver of the OTM became confused when the work site marker boards (WSMB's) were not found where the SPICOP had told him he expected the driver to find them. The SPICOP had himself become confused about the location of the WSMB's.

The second OTM movement was inside an unplanned worksite extension that had been wrongly approved by the SPICOP. Note: A PICOP is not authorised to instruct an OTM movement inside a work site.

UNDERLYING CAUSE

- The SPICOP failed to correctly identify the correct worksite mileages from the available documentation.
- The SPICOP failed to communicate and agree the lines and worksite mileages with the ES prior to authorising the OTM movements.
- The ES wrongly requested an unplanned extension around the OTM (not permitted)
- The ES wrongly requested the extension to the worksite after being informed that the initial OTM movement was already taking place.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Always check that your understanding of a task aligns with the plan and documentation provided;
- When communicating with others about a task or role, ensure a clear understanding is reached to maximise safety;

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CONSEQUENCES FOR THE SPICOP

- The SPICOP was removed from (S)PICOP duties with a recommendation that full PICOP retraining and mentoring must be completed before the recommencement of PICOP duties.
- The TES2000 incident investigation report was escalated to the Sentinel Investigations Panel for a formal review.

TIME TO THINK – UNSAFE BEHAVIOURS

- Have you ever failed to check your paperwork thoroughly because you thought you understood the requirements of the task?
- Have you ever failed to communicate effectively, maybe through over-familiarisation with others in a similar role or you felt embarrassed by being

seen as a 'by the book' person?

- If you are concerned that you do not know how to carry out a task properly or safely or that the plans or instructions that you have been given are incomplete, unworkable, too difficult, or unsafe in any way:
 - **STOP WORK.**
 - **GO TO A PLACE OF SAFETY.**
 - **TAKE 5 MINUTES TO THINK CLEARLY ABOUT THE SITUATION.**
 - **CALL THE TES2000 ON-CALL REPRESENTATIVE FOR SUPPORT AND FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.**
 - **DO NOT RE-COMMENCE WORKING UNTIL:**
 - You have agreed a safe system of working with the TES2000 On-Call Representative,



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