

Injury as a Result of Not Following Procedures

What Happened:

On 7th August 2019 a driver was preparing a trailer for loading. The driver had already removed all the roof support posts from the near side of the trailer and moved around to the off side to remove the remaining posts. He started to remove the support post from the off side middle of the trailer when the support he was handling sprung out and hit him across the bridge of his nose.

The driver reported the incident immediately and was taken to hospital to be checked over.

He was released a short time afterwards with a cut and bruising to his nose. No fractures or concussion.



Findings:

- Driver was qualified and wearing the correct PPE for the site
- Driver had been trained in the POFM SWP for roof support removal and replacement.
- Vehicle was inspected and no fault was found with the support
- Driver removed all the posts on one side of the trailer first, which put the weight of the roof on the remaining supports, and did not stand to one side of the posts as he undid them but stood directly in front.
- Driver did not follow the safe procedure for removing roof supports correctly

Recommendations:

Drivers and hauliers should:-

- ✓ NEVER remove ALL posts from both sides of the trailer.
- ✓ Remove only the posts that need to be moved to facilitate loading, ensure they are replaced before moving to the next post.
- ✓ Always stand slightly to the side when working with roof support posts.
- ✓ The centre post should not be moved more than third of the distance from the front or the rear.

Further information regarding P&O Ferrymasters standards and procedures can be downloaded from our website: <http://www.poferrymasters.com/carrierinfo/health-and-safety/operational-standards/>