



SAFETY ALERT

DATE: 7th July 2023

SA: 0003

TITLE:

Micro jetting hose injury

INDUSTRY SECTOR:

Water utilities

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Waste networks, wastewater treatment and operational jetting contractors

ORIGINAL SAFETY ALERT ISSUED BY

Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water

On Saturday 20th May 2023 a jetting operative was struck by his micro jetting hose when undertaking blockage clearance work.

The jetting hose was under pressure which has resulted in high pressure water injuries and lacerations to the operative's leg.

The operative attended A&E where the wounds were cleaned, dressed and a course of antibiotics provided to prevent infection.

The operative has returned to the hospital on two occasions where the wounds were checked and cleaned. An investigation is ongoing.



ACTIONS

When jetting work is being undertaken, a Safe System of Work must be followed to include the following:

- The operator must be trained and hold a current Water Jetting Association training card.
- Equipment must be free from defects.
- A safe working area must be established to exclude members of public.
- The operator, or designated colleague, must have control of the emergency stop button (remote).
- A jetting tube or shield must be used when undertaking the jetting operation.
- Jetting equipment must be deployed into the pipework before turning on the operating pressure.
- The operating pressure must be gradually increased.
- A full face visor, hard hat and gloves must all be worn.





ACTIONS – Continued

If you are a supervisor or a manager whose teams undertakes jetting activities please ensure your they are aware of the content of this alert.

Remember to: Always do a dynamic risk assessment on-site before starting any activity. And to stop and think throughout the task.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

Section 22: Safe use of water jetting equipment – Water Jetting Association Code of Practice - For the safe use of water jetting equipment in drains and sewers and surface preparation with a jetting gun at pressures up to 275 bar (4000 PSI) that an operative can comfortably hold 2023 ISBN – 1 874278 04 7.

Appendix 2: Hose and end fittings and couplings illustrations – Water Jetting Association Code of Practice - For the safe use of water jetting equipment in drains and sewers and surface preparation with a jetting gun at pressures up to 275 bar (4000 PSI) that an operative can comfortably hold 2023 ISBN – 1 874278 04 7.

Appendix 6: Risk assessment – Water Jetting Association Code of Practice - For the safe use of water jetting equipment in drains and sewers and surface preparation with a jetting gun at pressures up to 275 bar (4000 PSI) that an operative can comfortably hold 2023 ISBN – 1 874278 04 7.