

**Subject: Fatal Accident on RapidKL Depot Expansion Project adjacent to SCOMI  
Bombardier compound (lesson learnt)**

**When** : 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010  
**Time** : 11:00am  
**Venue** : RapidKL Subang Depot compound adjacent to Scomi site office(KLJ Project)

**HSE Comment** : **Workers without / less supervision**  
**Incorrect tool**  
**None of us will cut the manhole.**  
**Not clear instruction**

Visited the incident site today and managed to gather some information from RKL personnel on the incident, listed below is what caused the above fatal accident:-

The worker was trying to open a man hole steel cover that is located at the accident site, As they did not have the right tool to open the steel cover, they tried opening it with other tools but failed to open it and also damaged the slot used to insert the actual tool to open it, the worker finally decided to cut the manhole steel cover using a hand grinder.

They initially tried cutting it with the normal 6 inch disc but it did not work, so finally the worker decided to try and use a 12 inch disc (still under investigation who actually gave this instruction?) although the report states the supervisor was present at site. As the 12 inch disc could not fit into the hand grinder as the protective guard only allows the right size disc to be fitted on it, he decided to remove the guard to allow a 12 inch disc to be fitted onto the hand grinder.

Once the 12 inch disc was fitted onto the grinder (not sure how it was done, still being investigated) the worker started cutting the manhole steel cover which approximately has a thickness of 0.5 to 1cm. He managed to cut through to a length 3/4 of the cover's diameter, all of a sudden most probably, due to long duration and extreme force applied or the quality and durability of the disc that was being used cracked and struck his face and threw him to the ground.

A portion of the broken disc was lodged on his right temple till his right chin killing him 15 minutes after its occurrence.

This above fatal accident could be avoided if the work had been closely supervised, the right tool used, proper PPE, had the hazard been identified, assessed and the control measures disseminated to all the employees before work is commenced at site.

I will come up with some guidelines on usage power tools, will distribute it to all concerned accordingly ASAP. In the meantime please discuss or retrain your staff during the morning brief or tool box talk, especially those work that requires usage of power tools to prevent any untoward incident.

Thank you

Regards



Accident



Blood



Victim cutting the manhole using 7" Angel grinder (disc size maximum 7 inch)

