

## Hopper Entry Near Miss

An operative working for a supply chain company was observed standing in the hopper of a Phoenix Chippings spreader during Surface Dressing operations. Although there was additional guard mesh preventing serious injury in the hopper, this is not allowed during operational activities

The person in the hopper was shovelling chippings stone out of the hopper to supply for patching missed wet Bitumen patches at a junction. The large Phoenix chipper cannot always reach every part of a restrictive junction lay out and pedestrian operatives are employed to “spot-up” which means covering the wet Bitumen emulsion with hand laid chipping stone.

Although the hopper exclusion was clear in the contractors RAMS documents it had clearly not been understood by the individual concerned. Disappointingly his behaviour was also being ignored by the other members of the crew.

This safety alert has been prepared by the RSTA. For further information regarding this safety alert please email [enquiries@rsta.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@rsta.co.uk): or phone 01902 824325.