# **SAFETY Alert**

## **PREPARED BY: Corporate QHSE Dept.**

N°

10/2021

Date:

October 2021

**OBJECT:** 

TRENCH WALL COLLAPSE

#### **DESCRIPTION**

During tie-in activity of 16" Pipeline, Activity supervisor instructed the excavator operator to create a bell hole right under where the pay-welder was located (near the trench). During the excavation of bell hole, soil under the pay welder collapsed and tilted it over the trench. The pay welder was then retrieved with the use of side boom and excavator using slings to pull it.

#### **POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES**

- Pay welder Machine could toppled over into the trench.
- Personnel injury to paywelder operator;
- Damage to the lowered pipeline.

#### **INCIDENTS CAUSES**

- Pay welder was not positioned at a safe distance from the trench prior to commence the activity.
- Excavation to create bell hole started right under where the pay-welder was located (near the trench).
- Failure of Management of change: activity has started without obtaining the job specific work permit as no joint site inspection was done for the activity in order to identify potential hazards and risk associated related to the job.
- Pay welder crawler tracks were parallel to the trench with welding canopy leaned over the left track, supplementary
  force exerted over the left track resulting in ground instability.
- Inadequate supervision.
- Failure to apply the Stop work Authority in case of hazardous work conditions.

### **CORRECTIVE AND PREVENTIVE ACTIONS**

#### Measures adopted to mitigate consequences of a similar incident

- Work permit for the specific activity shall be obtained prior to start the activity.
- Heavy equipment shall respect project minimum defined distance from the edge of the excavation it may change accordingly to soil type and condition: what is your project / site minimum distance?
- Ensure adequate supervision at jobsite for safe execution of site operations.
- Pre job briefing shall be conducted by the site supervisor in order to educate workers about the potential hazards related to the job.
- Any unsafe situation shall be reported & stopped immediately.

RECEPTION BY THE PROJECT	
WHICH ACTIONS IDENTIFIED TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE PROJECT:	
Project Manager:	HSE Project Manager:
Signature:	Signature:

