

# Learning Bulletin – Joint Failure during UPCV Pressure Testing – Alcester STW Non TW

## What Happened?

A UPVC joint within a chemical dosing pumping cabinet failed to withhold during pressure testing and narrowly missed the operator carrying out the pressure test. No one was harmed during the high potential near miss.

## Why did it really happen?

A factory assembled dosing kiosk had been installed and connected to a ferric tank. The pressure test was required to achieve and hold 6 Bar as per the factory acceptance test document, however at 3 Bar the joint failed, was ejected from the cabinet and narrowly missed the pressure tester.

During the first inspection of the joint a lack of glue around the seal was identified.



Point of Failure



1st inspection of joint indicates lack of glue

## What can I do differently?

- Always ensure RAMS are followed and include measures to prevent or reduce the likelihood of any operatives being in the danger zone during pressure testing activities
- Ensure task specific PPE is detailed in the RAMs for pressure testing and worn by anyone within the working area
- Guards or barriers may be required to eliminate the risk of being struck by a flying object
- **Zero compromise** – If you are unsure that the method is the safest way to complete the task, ask your supervisor and challenge