

# DROPPED OBJECT

## Risk of Injury

A length of reinforcement bar (6 metre x 24mm) rolled off a plinth through a 30mm wide gap and fell 6 metres to the ground below.

At the time a worker was around 2.5 metres away from where the bar landed. The worker was shaken but not impacted or injured.

The Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) stated that all voids were to be covered.

Application of this control happened in part but not completely with one gap left exposed.



### Lessons Learnt

- The significant learnings to note are the importance of thorough work area inspections prior to the commencement of works, and verification of works at completion. In this instance, specifically the verification that all penetrations were covered prior to the work area being opened to workgroups.
- The SWMS identified the risk of dropped objects and associated controls (voids to be covered), however this control was not implemented in full as required.
- Supervisor and workers to ensure that works carried out in accordance with the SWMS.
- Ensure an adequate housekeeping regime to routinely remove disused construction materials from the work area.