



# Safety Alert

## Alcohol Based Hand Sanitiser

27 April 2020

The following pages of this safety alert were issued by Highways England's supply chain partner:

### **Siemens on HS2**

# Safety Notice – Alcohol Based Hand Sanitiser

Sharing of Lessons Learnt – Incident was not work related: Location:  
Haugesund

**SIEMENS**  
*Ingenuity for life*



## What happened?

A Gassco employee used alcohol based hand sanitiser as recommended during the Corona pandemic. The person touched a metal surface before the liquid evaporated. Due to static electricity, the vapour from the hand sanitiser ignited with an almost invisible flame on both hands. The person quickly managed to get to a sink to extinguish the flames

**Consequence:** First and second degree burns, see photo of injury.

**Actions taken:** Warning signs indicating flammable liquids are posted on all hand sanitising dispensers at Gassco.

**Advice:** Everyone should wash their hands with soap and water if possible. If only alcohol based hand sanitisers are available, make sure all liquid is evaporated before touching any surfaces.

