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‘Squeeze Whistles’

The Problem

The Laing O’Rourke team on C502 were challenged by their Crane Team to identify an improved method of signalling cranes and excavators during lifting operations. The solution needed to be heard as clearly as a whistle but without the need to exhale through a mouthpiece. They were concerned about having to put their gloved hand on their lips after lifting and using lifting accessories that had been in contact with the ground. Other concerns included potentially using a conventional whistle in an environment where Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) is required, thus needing to remove the RPE to use the whistle.

Moving Forward

Having reviewed the situation and talking to other people involved in lifting operations the team opted for a ‘Squeeze Whistle’. These have been used successfully on other Crossrail sites by lifting teams and the Crane Team at C502 are pleased with the results!



The ‘Squeeze Whistle’ creates a noise to alert others of lifting operations when squeezed by hand and eliminated the use of a conventional whistle

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