

Marine Safety Flash

A14-04 (15th July)



Broken ankle due to poorly rigged walkway

Incident Overview

A crew member fell off a temporary walkway, falling heavily onto his ankle, breaking it in two places.

Key Findings

- Vessel was under the control and management of a repair yard
- Vessels deck had been painted, a temporary walkway consisting of a plank had been erected across the painted area
- The plank was resting on a torch at one end
- When the engineer stepped on the plank it gave way beneath him causing him to fall over his ankle, breaking it in the process



Recommendations

- All future business with the yard is suspended until full investigation and audit has been carried out
- Exercise full caution when working in an environment not under your control
- Never rig or use temporary walkways that have been constructed from materials or equipment that have not been designed for that particular use
- All dry docks and yards that are intended for use to be audited
- Always remember the company's STOP WORK Authority, if you spot an unsafe condition then STOP WORK, flag it and rectify it before you or someone else gets hurt