

Marine Safety Flash

A14-16 (15th October)



Tagline Entanglement

Incident Overview

A crew of 8 people was being placed on the back deck of an offshore support vessel for transportation to another production facility. A Billy Pugh X-904 personnel basket was being used to transfer the personnel.

At the conclusion of the second of two personnel lifts, a 1/4" manila rope tag line that was attached to the basket became entangled around the lower left leg of the vessel's rigger as the basket was being raised. The rigger was lifted approximately 15 feet in the air before SWA was called. He was lowered safely back to the deck without injury.

This event was similar to other tagline entanglements and snagging events that have occurred during lifting and rigging operations.



1/4" manila rope tag line that became entangled and wrapped around the riggers leg, causing him to be lifted 15' in the air



Personnel basket manufacturer's recommended tangle-free tag line (was not in use)

Recommendations

Reducing Entanglement Risk - What you can do:

- Use a semi rigid, tangle-free tag line as recommended by the personnel basket manufacturer.
- Include tag line hazards on lifting and rigging JSAs and reinforce their use during pre-job meetings.
- Stay alert and focused during personnel transfer operations.
- Don't loop tag line around wrists, or other parts of the body.
- Keep all sections of the line, including slack, in front of the body, between the handler and the load.
- Don't retrieve taglines by going under load.