

Marine Safety Flash

A15-17 (15th August)



Dropped Wear Plate from Crane

Incident Overview

During crane operations on top of the firing line, a Teflon wear plate (2.5m x 450mm, weight 14kg) fell approximately 40m from the Special Purpose Crane (SPC). The falling object struck the IP across the back of the head, right side of face and neck, causing an abrasion and swelling.

IP reported immediately to medic, who administered pain relief and ice pack. Shore based Doctor and vessel doctor consulted on IP condition and treatment.

Key Findings

1. Audit and Inspection - Assessment or Audit Failed to uncover inadequacies: The Contractor Daily and Weekly crane inspection checklists and maintenance programme did not include wear plates and brackets as items to be inspected and maintained.
2. Audit and Inspection – Assessment or Audit Failed to uncover inadequacies: The Audit and Inspection Plan and pre-mobilisation checklist did not include criteria / requirements to assess crane condition or evaluate inspection and maintenance records for critical areas (this would include crane boom and fixings).



Original position of Teflon wear plate on boom lacing in boom tip section



Fallen wear plate on C Deck adjacent to the load landing area.

Recommendations

1. Contractor to immediately inspect all boom lacing wear plates and fixings and as appropriate, replace on all vessel cranes. It is further recommended that a secondary fitting (e.g. lanyard) be considered to prevent object falling in the event that the primary fixings fail.
2. Incident Lessons Learned to be shared across Contractor fleet and relevant Owners Team Assets.
3. Contractor to revise their crane inspection checklists and maintenance programme for the vessel and ensure implementation across other Pipelay vessels fitted with cranes.
4. Review to be undertaken of existing Owners Team pre-mobilisation documentation to determine specific details of the inspection checks for boom lacing wear plates and associated fixings. Subject to this outcome, consideration should be given to engaging a Third party Crane Specialist (SME) to address this issue during pre-mobilisation inspections.

Lessons Learned

1. 3rd Party Survey condition inspections of vessel cranes is not as in depth as perceived by the Contractor.
2. Consider directly engaging or stipulate in Major Contracts for offshore Contractors to engage a 3rd Party Crane Inspection Specialist who have professional accreditation and competent personnel in inspection and operational methods to inspect cranes
3. Consider installing secondary restraints / lanyards to bolted fixed small items in elevated areas that have the potential to fall to lower work areas and injure personnel.
4. Conduct periodic dropped object hazard hunts as part of site hazard management programme