

## Lifeboat launch capability compromised



### Cause of incident:

Inadequate implementation of **hazard identification** process

### Description of Process:

Secondary Lifeboat (not normally used) required in the event of a **primary lifeboat being unavailable**.

### Description of Incident:

Scaffolding had been erected to allow safe access for vendor personnel access to surrounding structure. This involved **erecting scaffold in close proximity to the lifeboat**. During a worksite visit it was noted that the scaffold had been erected around the winch chain on the aft end of the lifeboat.

It was identified that **the opening left to allow the winch chain and winch block to pass through was significantly smaller than the winch block itself**, thus compromising the launching capability of the lifeboat. On the underside of the scaffold boards there was a scaffold pole support that would also have impaired the descent of the lifeboat.

### Good Practice Guidance:

During work preparation it is good practice to consider Major Accident Hazard implications and change management. In this case, **impairing the functionality of the lifeboat had not been fully considered** by those involved in the preparation for work risk assessment.

### Contributing factors:

Change management, control of work, complacency