

SAFETY ALERT

Uncontrolled Descent – Near Miss



Description of Process:

Lifting of a hydraulic control unit.

Description of Incident:

Prior to lifting a hydraulic control unit, it was observed that the saddle and Blow out Preventer Control hose arrangement would obstruct the planned lift.

The saddle and control hoses were suspended approx. 1m from the deck by a Yale Lift 360 manual chain hoist.

The operator proceeded to use the chain hoist to raise the saddle arrangement another 1 metre off the deck to provide a clear path for lifting the hydraulic control unit. Whilst lowering the load, it paid out freely, lowering the saddle and hoses onto the deck. No one was injured and it was found that there was no equipment damage.

Due to the load (saddle and blow out preventer control hose) being suspended for an extended period of time, the brake hub had stuck in the "open" position on the pinion shaft.

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Good Practice Guidance:

- Ensure chain hoists are not used for suspending loads
- Ensure appropriate lifting equipment is used for long term suspended loads
- Ensure there is a method of routinely inspecting lifting equipment

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