

PDO Identified during rope access operations

SAFETY ALERT

Description of incident:

Whilst completing equipment checks via rope access on an offshore installation, a Technician noticed a potential dropped object (PDO) at a height of approximately 10 meters. The object was still attached, but was easily removed by hand, and could have dropped to the deck below.

The object, a piece of heavily corroded ladder rack, was approximately 1 meter in length and weighed 3kg. Using the Drops calculator, this indicates that if the object had fallen and struck somebody it would have likely resulted in a fatality.

The area below the object was not a walkway, so the likelihood of anyone being below would be low, however the potential for personal harm and equipment damage is still significant.

Key Learning:

- The object was in an area not usually visible from the deck
- It's unlikely that the regular platform PDO surveys would have identified the object due to its location

Location of corroded racking and missing section. Note pipework below which would have been impacted.



Good practice:

- Complete regular dynamic risk assessments / 20 second scans to identify potential hazards
- If you identify potential hazards, raise them for rectification and / or stop the job
- Ensure a systemic process of PDO identification and removal is in place at your site and consider areas that might not be immediately accessible and visible



Potential dropped Object: – Piece of ladder rack weighing 3kg

7Cs OF SAFETY

COMMITMENT

How are **YOU** playing **YOUR** part in making **YOUR** worksite safer?

Line of Fire

Keep yourself and others out of the line of fire



- I position myself to avoid:
 - moving objects
 - vehicles
 - pressure releases
 - dropped objects
- I establish and obey barriers and exclusion zones
- I take action to secure loose objects and report potential dropped objects