

# 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.**



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

## 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

## 7<sup>cs</sup> 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