



# Safety Alert Fatal Incident – Caught between rotative drum

14 May 2020

The following pages of this safety alert were issued by Highways England's supply chain partner:

**Soletanche Bachy**



# Caught between rotative drum

## Fatal Accident

### The facts

This event happened on March 31, 2020, while ending to refuel the crane, a worker was caught between the rotative crane's boom hoist drum. He passed away at the hospital as a result of his injuries.

After the refueling operation (access to fuel tank from the top of the crane), the victim (helper) was trying to get down from the body of crane while he suddenly fell into the boom hoist drum.

The banksman (located in front of the crane), after seeing the fuel hose retracted from the refueling lid, he thought the refuelling was completed and instructed the crane operator (who had remained in the cabin) to restart the crane and resume operations.

When the crane boom (and therefore the drum) was activated, neither the crane operator nor the banksman realized that the helper was still located on the crane. The helper was crossing the drum using the wire rope as a support and was suddenly pulled down.

He fell and was caught between the rotative crane's boom hoist drum.

### Causes

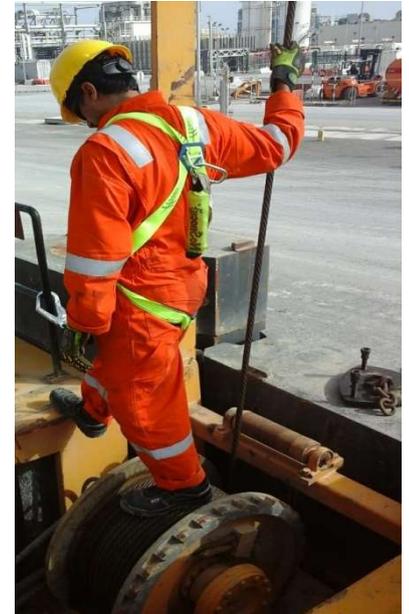
- Failure to arrange adequate location for supervision of the operation – communication failure (visual/verbal)
- Inadequate management of change
- Inadequate devices for identification of hazards on plant & equipment
- No Lock out / Tag out procedure implemented: operator in the cabin
- Inadequate correction of plant & equipment hazard by the management: provision of access and barriers for refueling operations.

### Contributing factor

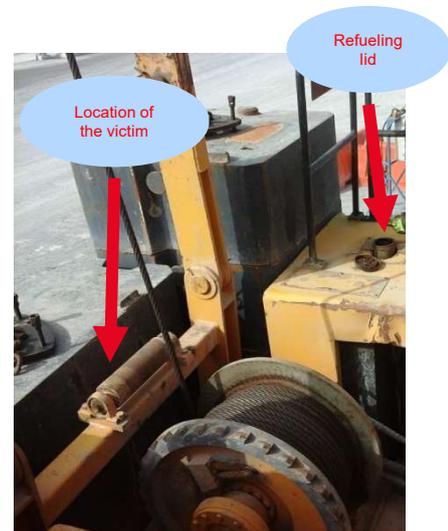
- Re-organization of the site due to COVID-19 crisis and government measures announced the day before

### Corrective actions

- Ensure proper identification hazards for routine operations
- Ensure sufficient rear view mirrors & winch camera to check back side of machines
- Implement proper guards, barriers and working platform (collective protection) to all cranes and rigs
- Ensure a radio communication to for all operations (including routine activities)
- Update the Lock Out / tag Out procedure, (only one key to start the machine and open the fuel hatch / no operator in the cabin)
- Perform a Management of Change training. Each department / site management team to notify the organization and the HSE department regarding new changes that could affect the current organization
- Accident debriefing must be conducted for all personnel at all sites



1 Position of the victim when the drum has been activated (reconstruction)



2 Position of the victim during the accident

SAFETY ALERT

For more information, please contact :

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