

Safety Alert

Number: 25-03

Published: 06/03/2025

Subject: Potential Dropped Object

What Happened / Narrative

During routine lifting operations in the North Sea, a container was hoisted from the vessel's main deck to the installation cargo deck. Upon landing, the bosun noticed significant corrosion on a tie-back handle mount, which caused the tie-back to loosen. This could have resulted in a dropped object hazard.

Why Did it Happen / Cause

An opportunity to identify the hazard was missed during pre-lift checks at quayside. It's possible the checks were ineffectively carried out or the corrosion was not identified as excessive. Furthermore, the corrosion on the tie-back wasn't recognized as an immediate safety concern by the vessel deck crew.

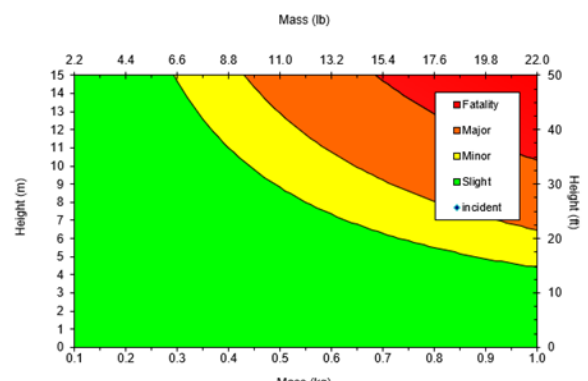
Corrective Actions Taken / Recommendations

While some corrosion is expected in harsh seagoing conditions, it's crucial to have a thorough and systematic approach to safety checks. Identifying potential hazards before they become critical is key to preventing dropped objects. Moving forward, we must stay vigilant in inspecting for hazards and ensure all identified risks are communicated clearly to everyone involved in the lift. This event highlights the importance of a 'clear deck and hands free' policy to protect vessel crew and lifting parties from dropped object hazards.

Photographs / Supporting Information



Outcome Calculator	
Height	25 m
Mass	0.1 kg
Outcome	Slight 24.52 Joules



The information contained within this Safety Alert and the associated MSF web site is provided in good faith for the benefit of our members and does not constitute and is not intended to constitute professional advice or any form of formal representation on behalf of any MSF member or officer. The text as provided by submitting organisations may be amended to ensure that it is brief, informative and readable but will as far as reasonably practicable remain as per the intent of the original submission. For the avoidance of doubt, no liability whatsoever shall be attached to any guidance, recommendation or statement contained therein. Contents should be reviewed individually by recipients who will determine relevance to their own operations.