

Learning From Incident Awareness Alert

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| Alert NO | External Alert _OQ_0121102020 | Pattern | Lifting |
| Date | 29th September 2020 | Directorate | ----- |

Target audience for this alert

Construction, Drilling, Operations ,Engineering, Exploration, Project and Logistic.

Description of the incident:

A crew was offloading palletized wooden boxes out of the 40-foot container loaded on a flatbed truck. In absence of the right machine, the crew decided to use a regular forklift and synthetic web slings to drag the boxes out of the container where one end of the sling was attached to the forklift mast and the other end was looped around blocks at the bottom of the wooden pallets. After offloading 5 boxes, the crew decided to drag the last 2 palletized boxes together at the same time. At this point, the flagman was standing outside of the truck and in close proximity (1.5m) from the back end of the flatbed trailer. As the forklift backed up and the boxes moved for about 2m, the blocks on the pallets got dislodged under tension, propelled towards the forklift and struck the flagman in the head.



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Why it happened:

Attempting to pull two pallets by the pallet blocks on the leading edge using a forklift which would only be held in by the securing nails.

Lessons learned:

- Ensure the lift plan and the risk assessment are in place.
- Ensure follow a proper method to load/off load pallets.
- Pallets are designed to be lifted and, they are not designed to be pulled along the ground.
- Ensure all participants are way from the line of fire.
- Ensure the equipment being used is appropriate for the job.
- Ensure the work area is clear before carrying out the operation.
- Ensure that people are competent for the job.

For more information: Contact MSE3 Team.

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