

Safety Alert

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Subject: Dropped Object Awareness

What Happened / Narrative

Dropped Objects are a persistent problem within our industry. In recent weeks, one of our member's fleets across all regions has incurred a rise in incidents during cargo operations relating to Dropped objects or Potential Dropped Objects. Such incidents and near misses include: Container doors not secured, Bulk Hose falling from its stored position, Equipment not secured within units, Potential dropped objects found on the lifts and a vessel even had an incident where a cargo unit of 7.5t fell from a significant height onto the deck (see picture below).

Corrective Actions Taken / Recommendations

Thankfully, nobody was injured in these incidents, however there is high potential for loss of life. While what happens on the installation/rig is out with the control of the vessel and crew, we want to remind vessel crews some of the key points in protecting themselves as best as possible to prevent injury:

- Remain vigilant and attentive to the cargo operation. If you see something is wrong – Use your Stop Work Authority!
- Do not approach the lift until it is landed on the deck and the crane driver has given the signal to approach.
- Do not stand under a lift. Keep well clear. Always wear appropriate PPE and remember PPE is the last line of defense; it should not be the only line of defense!
- All dropped or potential dropped objects to be reported to the installation/rig as soon as identified as well as the company and client at the first opportunity.
- Dropped Objects and Potential Dropped Objects' take various forms, not just tools. Consider loose dirt/gravel, valve caps or grid walkways not secured etc., The lifts themselves are potential dropped objects - always remain vigilant when approaching a lift.

Continued engagement with clients, encouraging proper identification of causes and highlight the issue through the appropriate forums such as the Marine Safety Forum and DROPS forum.

Following these key points will help to prevent unnecessary injuries.

Photographs / Supporting Information



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