

SAFETY ALERT



Safety Alert No. 378
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Unsecured Trough Drain Grating Poses Tripping Hazard



Reenactment of a grating pivoting under force.

In December 2019, two offshore personnel were injured, and subsequently placed on restricted duty, after stepping on a section of unsecured drain grating.

The first incident occurred on December 6th when an employee was walking across the main production deck and stepped on a section of grating covering a trough drain. The grating shifted under his weight causing him to injure his back.

On December 28th, an employee walking behind the drawworks stepped on an unsupported section of grating, it pivoted under the employee's weight causing him to lose balance and twist his right knee.

Therefore, BSEE recommends that operators and contractors consider the following:

- Inspect all grating covers to ensure no hazards exist, such as pivoting;
- Where applicable, weld shorter drain grating sections together to eliminate the risk of the grating pivoting under an applied force;

- Consider adding end caps to prevent grating sections from sliding;
- Emphasize the importance of situational awareness for reducing injury risks to crew members; and,
- Ensure lighting near grating is sufficient to make grating sections more visible.

--BSEE--

A **Safety Alert** is a tool used by BSEE to inform the offshore oil and gas industry of the circumstances surrounding a potential safety issue. It also contains recommendations that could assist avoiding potential incidents on the Outer Continental Shelf.