SAFETY ALERT



Contact: David Nedorostek

Phone: 703-787-1029

Safety Alert No. 383 May 11, 2020

Lifting Incidents Involving Tote Tanks

In 2019, there were several lifting incidents on the Outer Continental Shelf involving tote tanks. These incidents involved moving or repositioning tote tanks, which resulted in 1) load slipping from the slings, 2) snagging on obstacles and 3) colliding with other objects during lifting operations.







Example of a snagged lift

Example of snagging points

The result of a dropped object

Causes and Contributing Factors

An analysis of the data for lifting incidents showed that many could be attributed to not reviewing lift plans and task risk assessments to ensure they are up to date. Additionally, control of loads, roles and responsibilities of personnel involved, securement of loads, lifting of tote tanks, line of fire, and confirmation of clear areas during blind lowering were also noted.

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

- Ensure that an adequate and effective Job Safety Analysis is conducted and discussed before moving tote tanks;
 - Job Safety Analysis should include the risks, precautions, lift plan, rigging arrangements, checking for potential snag hazards, roles and responsibilities and communication;
- Conduct reviews of drop zones prior to lifts and identify safe zones during lifts;
- Check the security of a tote tank and slings prior to lifting;
- Ensure that crane operators have a good understanding of ocean and sea conditions to properly judge wave swell during the lift;

- Complete formal risk assessments and include areas outside of the anticipated dropped object area when completing the assessments;
- Review existing lifting operations procedures to ensure it is up to date;
- Consider including knowledgeable personnel who do not regularly work in lift inspection areas to participate on dropped object prevention inspection teams to provide additional insight;
- Ensure appropriate and up-to-date crane and lifting operations training is provided to all personnel involved in lifting operations; and,
- Complete lifting or rigging plans in accordance with the facility safety management system. Plans should be:
 - completed for every lifting or rigging operation (routine and non-routine)
 - completed and reviewed by suitably trained and knowledgeable personnel
 - approved by the supervisor or Person in Charge of the lifting or rigging operation to ensure all identified controls are in place prior to lift and remain in place for the duration of the activity.

--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.