

SAFETY ALERT



Safety Alert No. 422

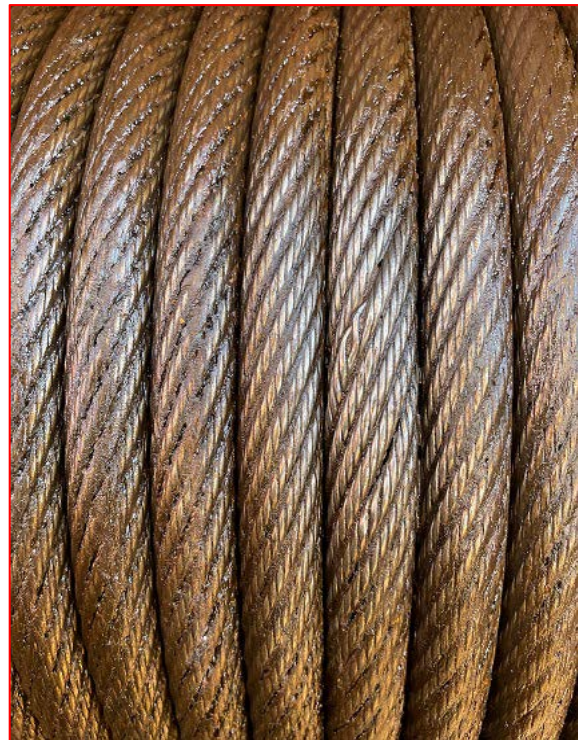
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Miscommunication of Load Weight Leads to a High Potential Lifting Near Miss

A crane offloading cargo struggled with the weight of a load being lifted from a supply vessel. The supply vessel had already pulled away, leaving the operator no option but to complete the lift and set the basket down the platform deck. The crane was shut down. Upon inspection, it was discovered that the wire rope was damaged in two spots. The manifest listed the load weight of 4,300 pounds, but the load was approximately 8,500 pounds. The load chart showed the crane was rated for 6,650 pounds at any angle. Further investigation found that the dock had mistakenly labeled the load as 4,300 pounds due to miscommunication over an intercom. Additionally, the basket weight tag was not changed and included the weight for an empty basket.



Load with incorrect weight recorded on manifest and wire rope with damage.

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

- Audit the logistics and coordination of shipments and loading from the shore base.
- Request and review cargo manifests to the affected offshore facility prior to shipment, showing both the loads and their weights (if over 5,000 pounds). Communicate this information to the crane operator so that he/she may prepare for the lift(s).
- Verify loads exceeding 5,000 pounds are clearly marked on both the load and the cargo manifest before placing the load on the boat.
- Consider color and shape marking labels of certain weights, and where possible, ensure the markings are visible from the crane.
- Verify that an assessment of the condition of the slings and rigging is included in pre-use / pre-lift inspections, since loads of equipment that are pre-slung from rental companies are not always checked by the transport company dock crew or boat crew.
- Check the load weight indicator to verify the load does not exceed the cranes recommended load weight and ensure the basket weight tag reflects the weight of a loaded basket.
- Cranes that have exceeded their rated capacity should be removed from service, inspected, and tested by certified crane mechanics to verify that the crane was not damaged.

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.