

# Safety Alert

**Number:** 18-18

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**Subject:** Wire Rope Failure During Chain Handling Operation

## What Happened / Narrative

During chain handling operations on an Anchor Handling Vessel deck; the vessel crew were preparing 76mm chain length for decanting operation onto a Semi-Submersible MODU.

While recovering the chain from the AHV locker the Stbd-Aft tugger wire was connected to the 76mm chain utilising a 6Te wire rope sling. The chain was recovered out of the locker and with the chain approximately ¼ of the way up the deck the wire rope sling failed causing the 76mm chain to fall back down the deck and into the AHV locker.

**Note:** A clear deck policy was in place during the chain handling operation ensuring all personnel were clear and no injuries were sustained at the time of the equipment failure.

## Corrective Actions Taken / Recommendations

### Immediate Actions:

- All working crew accounted for and confirmed uninjured.
- AHV crew assessed the damage to the wire sling and the sling was discarded.
- All equipment involved was inspected and confirmed no further damage was encountered.
- New 10Te sling utilised and the chain was reconnected and successfully recovered and prepared for the decanting operation onto the Semi-Submersible MODU.

### Improvement Recommendations:

- Pre-operation equipment suitability inspections are mandatory to ensure all lifting equipment is fit for purpose.
- Minimum 10Te sling to be utilised during chain handling operation due to the excessive load while manipulating chain around the chain hauler.
- Incident is to be discussed during tool box talks and safety meetings.

Please use the details and learnings from this alert to review how you perform similar operations and ask yourself if this type of event could happen on your vessel? What barriers do you have in place to prevent such an incident?

## Photographs / Supporting Information



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