

Marine Safety Forum – Safety Flash 15-06

Issued: 5th February 2015

Subject: Hand injury stowing anchor chain

Recently we had an incident onboard one of our vessels where a crewman suffered a first aid injury to his hand.

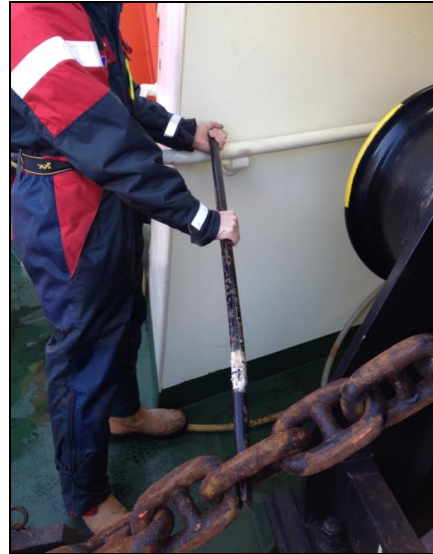
The crew were re-stowing the anchor chain after calibration in dry dock. They were trying to get the chain into the compression bar but it was slightly misaligned preventing the bar from closing. They tried lowering & raising the anchor a few times but to no avail. The IP then successfully used a large pinch bar to turn the link slightly as the chain was raised the last short distance to allow the chain to fit snugly in the compression bar.

Unfortunately he failed to notice the pinch bar was now aligned with handrail on the adjacent bulkhead and as he lowered it his hand came was caught between the pinch bar and handrail.

(Photos below staged post incident)



Pinch bar used to rotate anchor chain



Pinch bar released and hand contacts handrail

Hand placement is vitally important, where we place our hands is key to avoiding injuries.

Mind on your hands - always look at where you keep your hands. REALLY look!!

Ensure these matters are discussed at your next safety meeting and the contents of this alert shared with all onboard.

Your co-operation in keeping your working environment safe is appreciated.

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