



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 12 – 08

SUPPLY BOAT PULLS PLATFORM CRANE OVERBOARD

WHAT HAPPENED:

During routine lifting operations on a production platform, which involved offloading a 20 foot basket from a supply boat, the basket turned around when the crane started lifting it and hooked inside an escape opening in the rail. The supply boat moved down on the swell at the same time as the crane lifted. The crane operator lowered the lift back on the deck and tried to lift it again. The basket hooked inside the opening, seconds later the crane fell in to the sea. The crane-operator managed to escape without injuries.

The vessel was still connected to the crane (now on the sea bed) as the hook and wire from the crane were connected to the cargo and hanging out over the stern of the vessel. Later the crane wire broke. Because of the potential risk to the vessel's crew members, the crane wire was not cut by the vessel's deck crew. The basket remained on the supply boat deck. As a result of the crane falling into the sea, a small oil spill was reported (0.6ltr). This incident is considered a high risk incident and relevant investigations have started up.



Crane before incident



After Incident

The Corrective Actions stated in this alert are one company's attempts to address the incident, and do not necessarily reflect the position of IADC or the IADC HSE Committee.

This material is presented for information purposes only. Managers & Supervisors should evaluate this information to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices

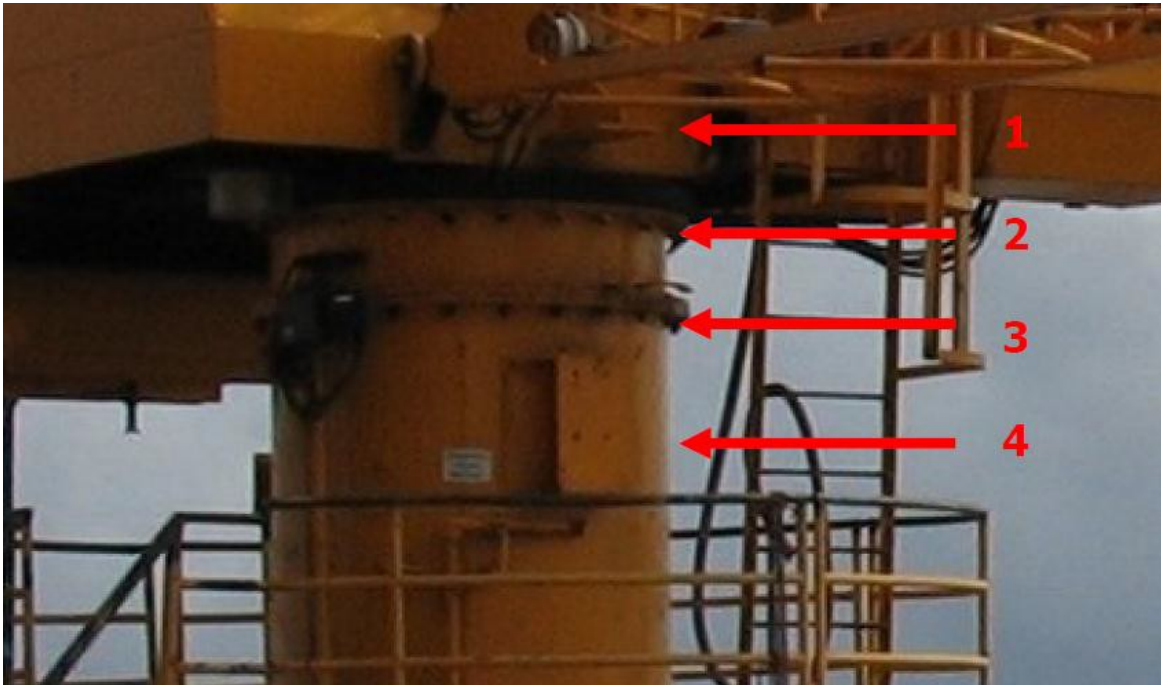
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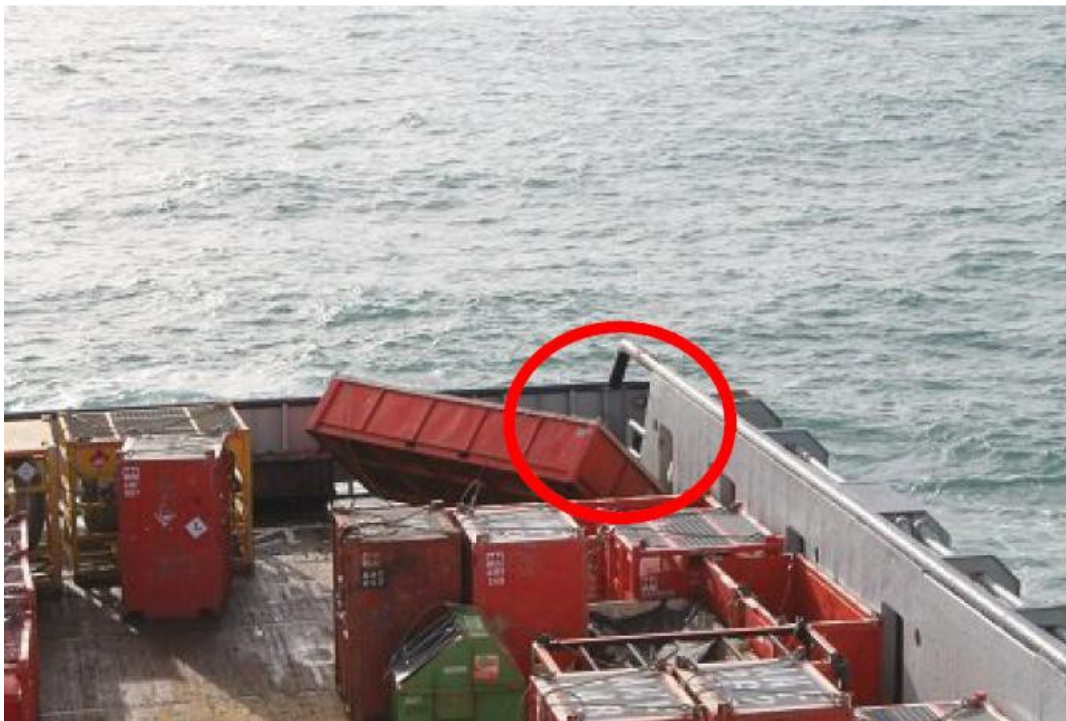
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Detail of crane

1. Crane
2. Slewing bearing
3. Flange to connect entire crane to pedestal, broken bolts
4. Pedestal



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Note: The circle points out the location of the basket after the incident and the escape opening the basket was hooked in

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company did the following:

Ensured safety of the platform, vessel and crew

- (Onshore) Emergency response team was mobilized;
- Relevant authorities were informed;
- First investigation on board by boat and platform crew;
- Started the investigation, focusing on ship/bridge activities, platform activities and crane maintenance;
- A similar type of crane was put out of operation for boat handling until relevant investigation results are known;
- Instructed transportation personnel to place transport baskets (low containers) off the side of the ship, in order to reduce the possibility of hooking in containers;
- The crane will be retrieved from the seabed as soon as weather conditions allow this.

****Credit to the Marine Safety Forum - Safety Flash 12-08 for distributing this safety alert.****

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