



Safety Alert

From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 02 – 08

IMPROPER RIGGING RESULTS IN LOST CARGO

WHAT HAPPENED:

While making a lift from a boat to the platform, the operator picked up a cargo basket and proceeded to swing away from the boat. While swinging the basket, the cargo suddenly shifted causing the O-ring on the latch side of the hook to pull through the latch. When the O-ring pulled through the latch, the two part sling came unhooked from the stinger and the basket dropped on one side resulting in dropping some of the cargo into the water. No injuries, but some of the cargo was lost.



Figure 1: Similar cargo basket with incorrect sling angle.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

- 1.) The cargo basket slings were too short to be utilized with a single point hookup causing an unstable load and one ring to pull through the hook.
- 2.) The minimum recommended sling angle (60 degrees) between the sling and the load was not maintained. Actual angle was about 35 degrees.
- 3.) The riggers on the boat failed to stop the job and used a poor rigging technique (single line stinger hook).
- 4.) The crane operator failed to observe the rigging techniques prior to starting the lift.



Figure 2: Similar hook point with incorrect sling angle = hazard.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company provided the following guidance:

- Utilize two-part slings when lifting similar cargo baskets.
- Crane operators and riggers should always maintain a minimum angle of 60 degrees between the sling and the load.
- Supervisors must reinforce the necessity of stopping the job when proper rigging is not being used.
- Supervisors should review this communication with all crane operators and riggers during a safety meeting.
- Use the same number of pickup slings as the number of o-rings on the load rigging.
- Each sling leg should be at least equal distance between the load pickup points (forming an equilateral triangle) regardless of whether using a single stinger or two-legged hookup. This will always give the preferred 60-degree sling angle.

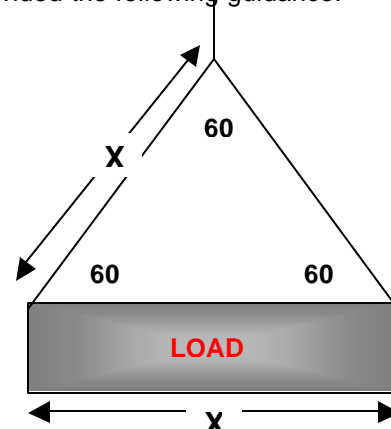


Figure 3: Rules of Thumb

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.

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