

WHAT HAPPENED:

A rubber bumper stopper for the derrick elevator (offshore) detached from its original mounting bracket and fell 20m landing on the Hydraracker Upper Level of the derrick. The bumper stopper weighed 600g, with the outcome of the DROPS calculator deemed to be a potential fatality. There were no personnel in the area and no injuries to personnel.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

- Derrick structure and fixed overhead equipment failure.
- Independent OEM inspections and lack of shared lessons learned from similar incidents within the industry resulted in a failure to recognize or communicate the drops potential of the bumper stoppers.
- The primary securing method of the bumper stoppers was inadequate by current DROPS recommended practice, and the incumbent drops process did not fully address the associated risk.
- A new design of rubber bumper stopper was not highlighted or prioritized for change out.
- Deviation from agreed independent drops inspection criteria.

LESSONS LEARNED:

1. Review independent drops inspection criteria and verify that inspections are being completed in line with the agreed scope of work.
2. Consult elevator provider to ensure most up to date rubber bumper stops are installed that conform with current DROPS recommended practice.
3. Ensure that bumper stoppers are included in drops inspections.

