



## SAFETY ALERT

Title: Stuck in Between Trailer and Crane

Location: Pipe Yard Store.

Loss/ Outcome: Major accident

### **INCIDENT**

A helper was handing over a sling to another helper for unloading material from a trailer. During this time trailer, which was parked started moving by itself. By the time helper noticed the trailer movement, his leg got stuck between the fender guards of moving trailer and stationary crane

### **OBSERVATIONS**

The driver positioned his trailer near the crane for unloading pipes, switched off the engine and alighted for verification of material and documents. Meanwhile one slinger of the crane climbed on the trailer bed and removed a steel lifting rope from crane hook and asked the helper to handover a smaller rope lying on the ground in front of the crane to lift the pipes from one side for making the provision to insert regular lifting rope set to lift the tubular prior to unloading. Meanwhile, the trailer started moving backward by itself. The field operator who was present there observed that the trailer is moving backward in slow motion started shouting. Simultaneously slinger who was on the trailer bed also shouted. The helper tried to escape but did not succeed and in the process his right leg got stuck in between fender of trailer and crane. The helper was taken to the hospital for treatment. The doctor examined the injured person and prescribed medicine and discharged him from hospital. In the night & next morning the injured person felt severe pain and was taken to the same hospital. He was referred to a super specialty hospital for further treatment where the doctors investigated the patient and amputated his right leg above knee to save him from further complications.

### **ROOT CAUSE**

- ❖ The driver of trailer had not engaged the parking brake and stoppers were not placed on site of the tyre to arrest unwanted sudden movement of trailer.
- ❖ Crane operator has not passed on clear instructions to his crew.
- ❖ The SOP was not available at site for "loading / unloading" the trailer.
- ❖ The helper performed an unsafe act by positioning himself between the trailer and crane without ensuring that the trailer is not parked safely.
- ❖ There was in-sufficient gap between trailer and crane.
- ❖ Lack of supervision.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ❖ The job safety analysis for loading & unloading need to be carried out and based on this, the SOP for these operations need to be prepared and followed.
- ❖ Competency of the crane crew needs to be enhanced through training.
- ❖ Proper wedges should be placed in front and behind the vehicle tyres and parking brake must be engaged before alighting from the trailer to prevent the unwanted movement.
- ❖ Hospitals to be kept in panel for emergency having required facilities and expertise.

*This Safety Alert is based on the Investigation report submitted by industry and published for information purpose only. This information should be evaluated to determine if it is applicable in your operations, to avoid recurrence of such incidents.*