

## Worker hit by steel plate falling from crane

Safety Flash Published on 24 April 2018 Generated on 12 January 2025 IMCA SF 09/18

The UK Health & Safety Executive (UK HSE) reports that a company has been fined after an employee was injured when he was struck by a steel plate that fell from a crane.

### What went wrong? What were the causes?

A person was carrying out work on a new metal staircase which was under construction. The task involved using a crane to lift a steel sheet attached to a magnet, but the sheet became detached from the magnet and fell, striking the injured person on the back and causing severe back injuries. The worker fractured his spine and has been unable to continue working as a steel fixer.

The UK HSE investigation found that the company had failed to ensure that the lifting equipment was of adequate strength and stability for each load. Whilst the safe working load was 1000kg, the magnet had to be de-rated to take into account the thinness and the length of the metal being lifted. The company also failed to ensure that the lifting operation was planned by a competent person, appropriately supervised and carried out in a safe manner.

The full press release can be found on the HSE website.

#### IOGP Life Saving Rules:



Line of fire



Safe mechanical lifting

*IMCA Safety Flashes summarise key safety matters and incidents, allowing lessons to be more easily learnt for the benefit of the entire offshore industry.*

*The effectiveness of the IMCA Safety Flash system depends on the industry sharing information and so avoiding repeat incidents. Incidents are classified according to IOGP's Life Saving Rules.*

*All information is anonymised or sanitised, as appropriate, and warnings for graphic content included where possible.*

*IMCA makes every effort to ensure both the accuracy and reliability of the information shared, but is not be liable for any guidance and/or recommendation and/or statement herein contained.*

*The information contained in this document does not fulfil or replace any individual's or Member's legal, regulatory or other duties or obligations in respect of their operations. Individuals and Members remain solely responsible for the safe, lawful and proper conduct of their operations.*

Share your safety incidents with [IMCA online](#). Sign-up to receive Safety Flashes [straight to your email](#).