

Near-miss: Snagged lifting bridle

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The MSF has published [Safety Alert 17-03](#) in which lifting rigging got snagged on an open top mini basket type unit.

What happened?

The incident occurred on a platform supply vessel (PSV) alongside an installation in calm weather. Whilst discharging an open top mini basket type unit, one leg of the basket's lifting bridle snagged on the bottom corner of the unit, almost causing it to tip over.

The vessel's deck crew immediately informed the installation crane operator when they noticed the snagged bridle, and with some careful manoeuvring the crane operator managed to free the bridle from under the corner of the unit. The basket was then lifted to the installation as normal.

MSF notes: *The vessel deck crew were commended for not rushing towards the snagged bridle to free it, as they could have placed themselves in a potentially hazardous situation.*

IOGP Life Saving Rules:



Safe mechanical lifting



Line of fire



What were the actions?

- Container manufacturers to consider re-engineering units to eliminate/reduce snagging hazards.
- The length of the unit lifting bridle will be measured to ascertain if it was too long, leading to this incident.
- The installation crane operator to be informed about any lifts with a potential to snag.

All parties are reminded that good communications between the vessel and the installation crane are essential for safe lifting operations.

Further information and safe operating practices can be found in “Best Practice for the Safe Packing & Handling of Cargo to & from Offshore Locations” available at onshoreoffshorecargo.com and the IMCA-related resources.

Further information and safe operating practices can be found in:

- Guidelines for lifting operations

Members may wish to review the following incident:

- Lifting bridle snagged – Failure to “stop the job” (also from the MSF).

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