

Chain caught and broke

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Crew were removing a hydrogen gland from a generator using a lifting attachment, two chain falls, and an overhead crane.

What happened?

One of the chain fall's pull chains caught on a bolt and broke. The bolt was on the top of the generator and was there to hold a protective cover sheet in place.

There were no injuries.

What went wrong?

- There was a general job briefing done for the day's work, but not specifically for this task.
- The crew had started lifting the load with chain falls and were beginning to lift with the crane.
 - There are two distinct lifts to be considered – the manual lift (with the chain fall) and the power lift (with the crane). The transition is the critical time.
- Everyone was focused on the load and **not watching** the chain falls or the crane.

Actions

- A safety stand-down was held to discuss this incident with all involved and lessons from it were to be included in future training material for apprentices and new hires.
- Have an increased awareness of ensuring chains are free when moving loads.
- Keep the “bigger picture” in mind – don't get so focused on the detail that something obviously potentially unsafe escapes your attention.

IOGP Life Saving Rules:



Safe mechanical lifting

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