

Fatal 6 - Ship's crew struck by falling hose

WHAT HAPPENED

A UK marine aggregate dredger was in the final stages of a refit at a UK shipyard. During the refit, the ship had been supplied with fresh water through a shipyard hose. Shipyard workers were recovering the hose after it had been disconnected by a crew member, who had connected two sections of hose together.

As the hose was hauled up by hand through a hatch, the bayonet connection between the two hose sections caught on the coaming; resulting in the two sections separating. The lower section dropped through the hatch; and, despite a shouted warning, struck the crew member on the forehead; requiring hospital attendance to close the wound.

A review of the incident established the following;

- Beyond disconnecting the hose, crew members were assisting shipyard staff with a task, with which they did not need assistance
- Interaction between ship and shore personnel was not planned, assessed or coordinated
- The crew member failed to properly connect the hose sections together
- Whilst medical treatment was provided to the IP, the opportunity to preserve the scene and secure evidence was lost
- Adequate PPE was not being worn.



Site of hose recovery



Hatch through which hose was being recovered

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

- Interaction between crew and contractors must be planned; to properly understand the task and apply necessary control measures.
- An appropriate level of assessment must be used for all tasks; including those perceived as low risk or minor.
- First-Aid/ medical treatment must be provided; however, duties must be assigned to ensure an incident scene is preserved; and evidence secured for investigation.
- Compliance with prescribed PPE requirements is mandatory; requirements must be clear to employees and not subject to interpretation.

LOCATION: AGGREGATE DREDGER
ACTIVITY: CONTRACTOR SAFETY MANAGEMENT
SUB ACTIVITY: MARINE

ALERT STATUS: Normal
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