

Marine Safety Forum – Safety Flash 14-30

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Subject: Potential Dropped Object

When receiving baskets and containers from the vessel, the flagman on the platform observed a sledgehammer lying loose on top of a CCU. Weight of sledgehammer is 2, 24 kg, possible drop height from basket to sea/vessel estimated to 60 meters, Impact=1318 J. The landing area on the platform was barriered off during the cargo operation.

The Master of the vessel received confirmation from the crew of the vessel that they were missing one sledgehammer.

The last time the sledgehammer had been used was during preparations for loading Water based mud at the quay when vessel was in port. The bulk hose is connected by vessel crew. During this operation an object was discovered in the hose, the bridge was informed and base personnel came onboard. The operator from the base borrowed a sledge hammer from one of the vessels crew and removed the object. After the cargo hose had been connected, the sledgehammer was placed onto the CCU.

The deck crew connects the hose and opens the loading valve after orders from the bridge. One crew member is appointed as hose guard ensuring no leaks or deviations in the operation.

The sledgehammer was not noticed by the vessel crew before the CCU was sent up to the platform offshore.

Potential dropped object during slight change in circumstances.



FINDINGS

- Base operator placed sledgehammer on top of CCU instead of delivering it back to vessels crew after use.
- Vessel crew did not see the sledgehammer before CCU was sent to platform.

RECOMENDED ACTIONS

- Perform a safety meeting on-board discussing the incident.
- Focus on routines for checking of cargo for loose objects. Clear responsibilities for checks between deck crew and bridge crew.
- Ensure check of loose objects is part of the toolbox talks before start of loading/discharging operations.
- Ensure Ship specific risk assessment is covering the check of cargo for loose objects.

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