

Introduction

The Safety Committee formed by members of Atlink Ltd and FIG have identified an increase of incidents on FIPASS involving lifting operations. Most recently this has resulted in lifting equipment failure or unsafe lifting methods being used and as a result cargo falling from height onto the deck. Therefore this safety notice aims to provide a good practice guide for all FIPASS Users to improve safety standards for Lifting Operations.

Lifting Equipment Guide

The following points of guidance should be adopted as best practice for the provision and use of work equipment in the workplace and safe lifting operations on FIPASS.

- 1. A valid certificate of testing and thorough examination by a competent person should be in force for every item of lifting equipment
- 2. Work should not proceed in the absence of a valid certificate.
- 3. Accessories for lifting should be stored in conditions that will not result in damage or degradation.
- 4. A Register of all lifting appliances should be kept by the vessel or equipment owner.
- 5. The Lifting Equipment Operator should be trained, qualified and authorised.
- 6. Operator pre-start checks must be completed before commencing any lifting operations and a written record retained.
- 7. The safe working load (SWL) of the equipment, should never be exceeded.
- 8. Outrigger pads for cranes must be used on FIPASS.
- 9. No person should be lifted by riding the hook or standing on the forks.
- 10. Banksmen/Slingers should be trained and deemed competent.
- 11. Approved lifting methods to be followed at all times.
- 12. Work within the Deck Loading Limits (Which currently range between 2 to 8t per square meter, depending on location).

Considerations

1. In addition to the strength and stability of the lifting equipment, consideration should also be given to the stability, angle of heel and potential down-flooding of any vessel as a result of the use of a crane, davit, derrick or other lifting device fitted on it.

- 2. Weather conditions that may affect the lifting equipment stability or vision of the operator or Banksman/Slinger.
- 3. Workplace Lighting Levels.
- 4. To other FIPASS Users.

Lifting Operations Incidents

In case of an incident, all lifting operations should cease and the Atlink Duty Operations Manager should be informed on 22636 to assess the situation and if appropriate approve further lifting operations.

Recommended Reference Guides:

- 1. MCA, Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seafarers, 2015 edition Amendment 2, December 2017, Chapter 19, LIFTING PLANT AND OPERATIONS.
- 2. Lifting Operations, Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) 1998.UK Regulation.
- 3. BS OHSAS 18001:2007; Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series, British Standard.
- 4. UK regulation: Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998.
- 5. Rope Assemblies, Instructions for the use of Fiber Rope Slings, QD42, Issue No1, Dated 27th July 2015

{Original Signed} Garry Ross General Manager Atlink Ltd