



Marine Industrial Safety Alert

A worker fell from height onto a cargo hold bottom to death

- 1) Date of Accident:** July 2020
2) Time of Accident: In the afternoon
3) Place of Accident: At the waters of a public cargo working area
4) Vessel Involved: A dumb lighter
5) Summary:

Recently, a fatal accident happened on board a dumb lighter equipped with a shipboard derrick crane. Preliminary investigation revealed that a worker onboard intended unloading an alternator to shore by the crane with a pair of fiber slings. At the material time, the worker was standing on the deck to lean forward over the coaming to grab the slings for unloading. As soon as he grasped the sling, he was carried away by the swinging slings in the air and eventually fell onto the cargo hold bottom to suffer from serious injuries. Subsequently, he was taken into hospital by an ambulance and was certified death later on.

Investigation into the accident is now in progress.

6) Safety Alert:

- Workers carrying out any works on deck should keep a safe distance from swinging slings and never try to hold on them for a stop.
- It is the duty of the person in charge of works to take measures, in so far as reasonably practicable, to ensure the safety of a person employed at work.

7) Reference:

- Applicable Legislation - Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels)(Works) Regulation (Cap. 548I),
 - Section 54 “Persons carrying out cargo handling are to hold certificates”
 - Section 23 “General duties of persons in charge of works and employers”

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