

Safety Flash

Near Miss Incident

Date of Incident: 12/6/2021

The Incident

Associates were in the process of standing up a piece of process equipment with a mobile crane and a telehandler. They swung the load clear from the shipping crate the equipment was lying in and began to upright the load. When the load was static and fully supported by the crane, they were about to start to trip the load to stand it up when one of the nylon straps failed, causing a chain reaction of two more nylon straps to fail, and the load fell to the ground from approximately 18”.

The Causes

- There was a lifting plan in place that was not adequate to GEM Inc.’s Critical Lift Procedure.
- The nylon strap may have contacted an edge of the equipment being lifted.

Prevent It

- Utilize GEM Inc.’s lifting procedures.
- Incorporate rigging softeners or padding into lift plans where equipment could come into contact with any hard edges.
- Confirm with the manufacturer of the equipment the lifting point locations and any lifting instructions as part of the lift plan.
- Ensure that the proper rigging materials and equipment are available and accessible on site.
- Perform inspections of all rigging material and equipment prior to each lift.

Action Plan

- Performed a site-wide safety stand down to address this incident.
- Training on-site to review all rigging and lifting requirements and procedures for all associates involved in lifting operations.
- Review GEM Safety Task Analysis Card and Take Two for Safety procedures with all associates on site.
- Assign designated rigging coordinator to approve all critical lifts on site.
- All non-critical lifts will be approved by one designated associate per trade.

Keep Improving

Your health and safety are the most important part of every project. We need *your* help to eliminate unsafe behaviors and conditions. If you see a safer and better way to do a task, see your supervisor, or contact GEM Safety: Bill Cornett – 419-720-2728. To get personal protection equipment from the warehouse, call 419-720-2688.