

Fall from height

What happened?

Two contractors were involved in a near miss when a recently decommissioned oil separator tipped over while removing waste oil from the unit.

The decommissioned separator had been removed from its installed location and hold down bolts.

The separator has a canter levered walkway along one side that was initially stable due to the volume of oily water in the tank. However, the platform that the contractors were standing on became unstable as they removed the wastewater that was acting as ballast and it tilted over.

Unfortunately, this instability caused one of the workers to fall approximately 900mm from the platform to the concrete floor, thankfully though, the worker was not harmed during the incident.

Hydro Scheme

What did we learn?

Benefits of performing a site safety stand down immediately after incident.

Benefits of a cross-discipline approach to WSSP/task development.

Fast track Temporary Hazard board which has been stuck in Melbourne due to COVID-19.

Importance of using the Temporary Hazard Board to capture risks.

Awareness that de-commissioned equipment presents different risks than when in service.

