

Shared Learning

Mobile plant and equipment | Dropped concrete block | Geothermal site

What happened?

The rigging crew were rigging up the choke line about to move a concrete securing block into place.

The loader was equipped with the Stinger and the correct “SwiftLift” lifting clutch, when the block was approximately 25cm off the ground the concrete block fell to the ground.

Inspection revealed that the manufactured lift point (Swiftlift) embedded in the concrete block had failed due to a ductile failure.

What did we learn?

- The SwiftLift inserted in the block was rated at 1.3 tonne and the block weighed 2 tonne.
- The working load limit (WLL) of any lifting point should never be exceeded.
- It is good practice to visually inspect both lifting point and lifting attachments prior to all lifts taking place.
- Inspect all lifting points to ensure they are correctly rated for what they are lifting
- The crew stood clear from a suspended load while lifting operations took place and were not endangered when it failed.

