

SAFETY ALERT



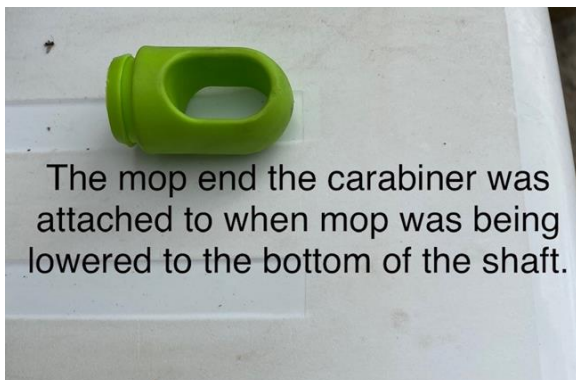
Falling object - mop handle hook detached while lowering

What happened?

Work was underway on the de-watering gate shaft approximately 30m deep, a worksite Safety Plan (WSSP) had been prepared prior to starting the job, this was being followed while lowering equipment into the shaft. Controls in place for the job included:

- clearing area below of people
- use of spotter
- communication with person lowering items

Mop was attached by means of carabiner through the hanging aperture on top of the handle, as the mop was being lowered this detached from the rest of the handle causing the mop to fall to the bottom platform.



What did we learn?

Main points:

- Aperture at top of mop handle is adequate only for hanging the mop for storage.
- This should not be used as a means of attachment when mop is being lowered into or out of the shaft.
- All controls in place and being followed this meant that no one was in the drop zone when item fell
- Unless designed for the task these type of hanging points or bucket handles should never be used when lowering equipment

Remember:

- Consider how items need to be secured before being lowered
- Ensure all controls are in place and followed before lowering of equipment
- Always inspect items before lowering to check for any loose parts