



SAFETY ALERT

Shared Learnings



INCIDENT TITLE:

Yaw gear slipped out of hand and swung into the Turbine Tower EVE-0000629 **(Part 1)**

TIME AND DATE OF INCIDENT:

02/10/2023 Te Uku Wind Farm

INCIDENT DETAIL :

A team of 4 workers were lifting a Yaw Gear of the back of a Ute with the service crane inside the turbine. The worker on the ground parked the Ute off the centre of the crane due to the wind blowing the hook. The Yaw gear was to be lifted out of its timber cradle and then up to the nacelle. Due to a miss communication (radio comms Part 2) the Yaw Gear was lifted out of the cradle pre-maturely and the worker at the bottom still had his hands on the lift. The worker did not realise that as soon as the gear would be lifted free of its cradle it would cause a pendulum effect. The Yaw Gear slipped out of the workers hands and swung towards the Turbine Structure hitting it and causing some paint chipping. No damage to the gear, no injury.

Yaw Gear weight:220 kg (this was only estimated on the day)

LEARNINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THIS INCIDENT:

It is important that nobody is in the Drop Zone when a lift is taking place or workers are working at height. The use of a Push/Pull stick or Tag line is advised so that the worker does not have to touch the lift when it is being lifted.

- 1.Worker was still new to the work task he was doing; he has been trained but has not yet done the Staylive Competency Evaluation.
- 2.All lifts must to be planned. Everything that is being lifted must have a known weight.
- 3.Worker was in the Drop Zone when the Gear was lifted out of the cradle.
- 4.A crane can only be used to lift straight up and down from the main lifting point. Any sideways movement in the lift will result in a pendulum effect. This could lead to a catastrophic event.

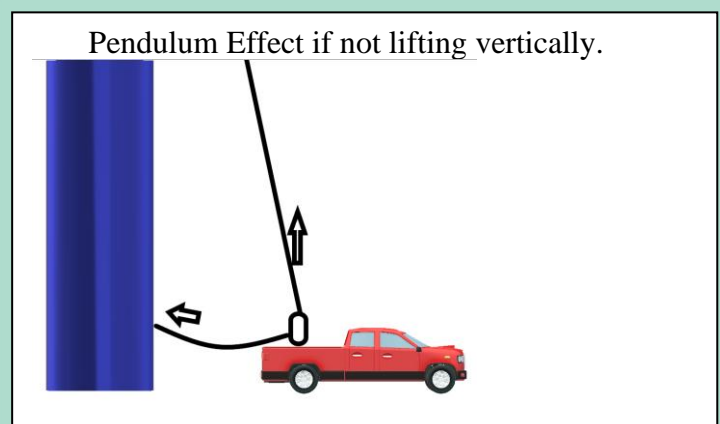
INITIAL RESPONSE AND INVESTIGATION OUTCOMES :

After the event happened the dogman and the person at the crane had a quick meeting on the radio to discuss what happened, what they could have done better and how to communicate clearly. They also discussed in detail how to proceed with the lift safely.



Push/Pull Stick

PHOTO:



THE CORPORATE SAFETY AND HEALTH TEAM ARE CURRENTLY WORKING ON SYSTEMS TO SUPPORT THE ABOVE LEARNINGS. IF INTERESTED IN VIEWING THE FULL INVESTIGATION REPORT FOR THIS INCIDENT, IT CAN BE FOUND HERE:

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