



SAFETY ALERT



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Lid from decommissioned open vent line fell onto walkway during heavy winds

Country: *NORWAY - Europe*

Location: *OFFSHORE : Floating Production Storage Unit*

Incident Date: *16 November 2022 Time: 07:00*

Type of Activity: *Production operations*

Cause: *Dropped objects*

Function: *Production*

A "bird screen" lid with a weight of 20 kg which had been bolted on to a decommissioned atmospheric vent line fell down on a walkway 37 m below during a period of high winds (50-60 knots).

What Went Wrong?:

- The vent line lid was designed to be installed on a vent facing upwards.
- The lid, as installed, did not have any means of secondary retainment since the lid had not been identified as a potential dropped object.

- The original tag number of the vent line was set to "deleted" after being decommissioned, hence leaving it without a formal trace in the maintenance program.

Corrective Actions and Recommendations:

- Review of decommissioning procedures to cover the risk of potential dropped objects.
- Review and improve inspection routines for potential dropped objects, physical and drone based.
- Review requirements for establishing tag numbers for other decommissioned equipment that could deteriorate into hazardous conditions.

Figure 1: Lid while installed on the atmospheric vent line



Figure 2: Lid after it had fallen down on walkway



Figure 3: Atmospheric vent line after the lid had fallen down

Safety Alert number: 352

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IOGP

City Tower, 40 Basinghall Street

Level 14

London, London EC2V 5DE

United Kingdom