

Safety Alert

Number: 16-17

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Subject: Man Fell into Manhole On-Board Supply Vessel

What Happened / Narrative

Location: Platform Supply Vessel in North Sea area

During vessel loading, the shore-side foreman walked into the "Safe Haven" area of the vessel and stepped into an open manhole. The Foreman managed to catch himself and prevent a free-fall of 5 meters into the tank. Foreman suffered a laceration on his shin requiring 3 stitches and has some bruising on his forearm.

Severity: High potential Medical Treatment case

Why Did it Happen / Cause

- Lack of barriers, open manholes
- Several different activities on-going at same time
- Lack of coordination of activities

Corrective Actions Taken / Recommendations

- Covering of manholes with gratings during work
- Ensure on-going work is coordinated between the work parties in the same area, through toolbox talk

Photographs / Supporting Information



*See also MSF Safety Alert 16.16 which was very similar in nature

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