

What Happened

Crew was tasked with lifting a 16" spool (approx. 15' in length, weighing approx. 4000 lbs.) from ground level to an access platform located 90' high, using an overhead crane. Rigging setup consisted of two 2"X16' nylon slings, two 1-1/8" shackles, two taglines and softeners. Once the spool had reached 90', the Crane Operator moved the spool over placement point and began lowering it into position. While lowering the spool, one of the slings failed at the choked eye. The spool swung vertically causing the second sling to fail, resulting in the full length of pipe dropping uncontrolled onto the decking below (approximately 20'), causing damage to equipment and structure. No individuals were in a line of fire at the time of event.



Lessons Learned - What did we learn?

Life Preserving Principles

Pre-Planning - Throughout pre-planning, supervision and crew were unsuccessful in identifying all sharp edges on the spool to be lifted. Although softeners were applied to the attached structural I-Beam, the reinforcement pad attached to the spool was not identified as a hazard, thus allowing the slings to make direct contact with the sharp edges on the reinforcement pads. Develop adequate work aids to reflect specifics of each lift. Continue to follow Procedures, Practices and Instructions associated with any Lifting Activity such as Checklist for Lift Planning, Cranes & Lifting Devices, Rigging.

Human Performance Traps

Overconfidence - Crew conducted verbal discussion on plan but did not proceed with documenting it. **Complacency** - Crew failed to identify need to use the proper quantity of softeners in the rigging configuration. The lack of softeners on the reinforcement pad edges caused the choked eye of a 2" nylon sling to fail.