

Fall from Ladder

Description of Incident (February 18, 2023)

Two inspection technicians were preparing to perform ultrasonic testing inspection on a flowline using an extension ladder. One worker braced the ladder to prevent lateral movement. The injured person (IP) was 2.5 - 3 meters up the ladder wearing fall protection and was in the process of tying off to a nearby structure when the foot of the ladder slipped backwards. The IP maintained their position on the ladder while it fell to the deck. The IP walked to the medic with their co-worker for further assessment where multiple lacerations required sutures to their knees and elbows.

What Went Wrong

Key Factors:

- The ladder was damaged; not identified with pre-use inspection
- Oily deck conditions were present within working area
- Worker bracing the ladder failed to recognize hazard of ladder slipping
- The bottom of the ladder was not tied off to a secure point

Corrective Actions & Recommendations

- Inspect all extension ladders and discard those that do not pass inspection
- Update Offshore Induction Form with expectations associated with ladder inspection and use
- Update training on ladder use and expectations
- Evaluate available alternative ladder designs which incorporate additional stabilization features for use offshore
- Update annual ladder inspection program

Applicable Lifesaving Rule

IOGP's [Working at Height](#) lifesaving rule includes best practices that relate to this safety alert.

Posted on May 26, 2023

[Read more](#) Atlantic Canada Offshore Safety Alerts.

Related Images

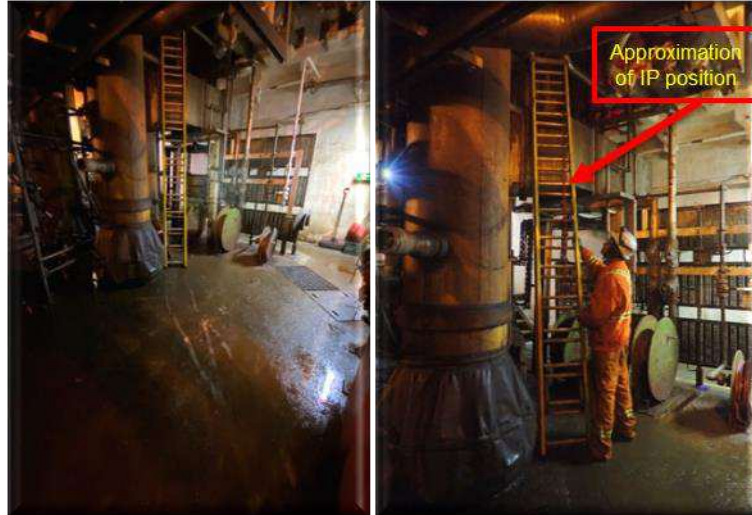


Image Description: Position of ladder prior to event



Image Description: Position of ladder following event