



SAFETY ALERT: FAIRLEAD

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

There have been several incidents in the past with the construction and use of fairleads resulting in (severe) personal injuries. The tension on the rope around the fairlead can cause for the rope to break loose when it is not properly attached. Moreover, the fairlead can break loose, causing for personal consequences. With this Safety Alert, PZI wants to raise awareness of the potential problem. Additionally, suggestions are made to lower the risk.



EXAMPLE SITUATION



INCIDENT



POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENT



POSSIBLE DANGERS

- Ropes can break loose and cause personal injury;
- The fairlead can break loose causing personal injuries.

MEASURES

- Always take into consideration the safest location when tightening up of lines and make sure to be out of the snap back zone;
- Have the fairlead construction checked by Class during survey both at the building stage and in service;
- Conduct a thorough visual inspection of the existing fairleads by your technical department on a regular basis;
- In case of new construction/fitting, carry out suitable tests to confirm the quality of the connection welds, mooring equipment forces and line directional settings;
- Incorporate the use of fairleads into the mooring procedure, including regular inspection and maintenance;
- In case of doubt, adjust the situation;
- Check whether the winch performance is in line with the original design performance (including anchor winches);
- Provide training and instruction for the safe use of fairleads;
- In the situation where bollards are used as fairleads, make sure the rope cannot slip from the bollards.

References/Sources:

BP Shipping, Downstream Assurance EMEA Safety Bulletin 001/2016

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