

Everyone home safe & healthy every day



Bond Street Station Upgrade – ██████ Hoist Cat Head Fall

Background

During maintenance on a goods hoist the Cat Head (top rollers) fell 34 metres from its position at the top of the mast down a lift shaft. There were no injuries however there was some plant damage to a steel gate, and this had the potential for a much worse outcome.

Incident details

A ██████ goods hoist installed by ██████ was undergoing maintenance, requiring the replacement of the wire bond rope. As the rope was pulled through the top rollers, the Cat Head weighing 8kgs was dislodged and fell uncontrolled from the top of the mast, a distance of approximately 34 metres. Fortunately there were no persons within the enclosure at the foot of the hoist when this happened. The Cat head is designed with a central lug which incorporates a hole for a retaining pin to secure the cat head to the mast. If the pin had been in place, the Cat Head would not have fallen.



Fig1: CAT Head with hole for retaining pin

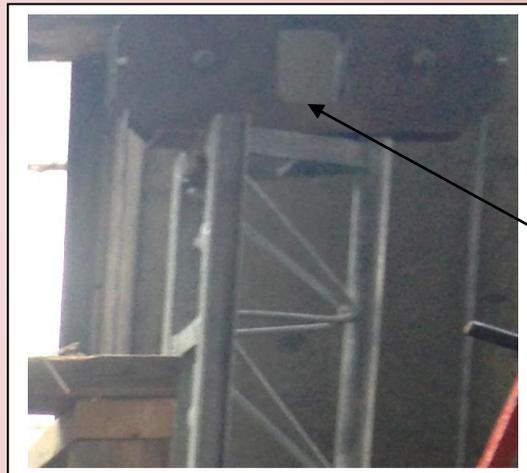


Fig 2: Top of mast with cat head in position

Recommendations:

- All similar hoists should be examined by a competent person to ensure that fixing pins are correctly in place.
- Check-sheets for any daily/weekly checks and the periodic Thorough Examination should specifically reference the location of split pins that are essential for securing components.
- Split pins should be tagged to make them clearly visible to assist inspections.
- There should be an effective system to verify that regular inspections have taken place.
- Competent persons carrying out maintenance or inspection work to lifting equipment should do so in accordance with the manufacturer's/supplier's instructions, together with a suitable and sufficient safe system of work.

Key Message

Goods hoists should be inspected to ensure that all components are properly secured, and regular inspections should be made with sufficient frequency to detect any possible deterioration. Where critical components (such as split pins) could be overlooked, they should be easily identifiable and specifically itemised on an inspection check-list.