



Learning Event



Winch Chain Failure – Line of Fire

Hazard

Winching a container onto a tilt tray

led to

Unwanted Event

Failure of the chain when working in the line of fire

Description

A winch and chain was used to drag a container onto a tilt tray.

The tray was too short to allow the correct angle on the chain, which failed striking the Operator in the face.



Risk Event Statement

Loading activities using a winch whilst standing in the line of fire can resulting serious injury to the operator.



Habits

- ✓ Area cleared of other persons.
- ✗ Container winched rather than lifted.
- ✗ Operator standing in the line of fire.



Learnings

Containers should be lifted onto trucks to eliminate winching.

Incorrect chain angle because the flat bed length was too short to allow proper winching. This led to the chain failing.

If winching activity is necessary, use pendant/remote controls to take the operator out of the line of fire.



Considerations

- > Ensure the right equipment is used in the right way for the task.
- > Consider similar risk controls for winching as would be in place for lifting.
- > Consider Line of Fire risks in task planning and review.

Could this happen to you?

- > Is the right equipment available for use?
- > What situations require you to position your body in the line of fire or operate energised equipment that could fail?