

SAFETY ALERT

The below information has been issued on behalf of the EFFC to make others aware of the potential risks and possible precautions to take in order to avoid these.



Date/Time of Incident:

07/02/2024 11:00 GMT

Type of Incident:

HiPo Near Miss

Nature of Incident/Injury:

Suspected Working Platform Failure

Details of Incident:

Remotely operated piling Rig was attempting to line up on the first pile position when the right-hand track began sinking slowly at the edge of the working platform and started to lean to one side. Tracks remained in contact with the ground although the left-hand track was slightly elevated. The mast was in the upright position and due to the precarious nature of the rigs position the mast could not be folded. The hammer was in the lower position and foot was grounded. (Further details will be made available when known)

Root cause (if known):

Still being investigated and currently unknown. However, early indications are that the following played a significant part in the incident. The inadequate materials used and the construction of the platform. The clear demarcation of the edge of the working platform. The weather conditions of the days leading up to the incident. The locality of a nearby attenuation pool/pond that could indicate a natural pathway for water/drainage from areas of the site.

Action Taken:

07.02.24 – All operations ceased with Safety and Operational teams mobilised to site and cordoned off the area incorporating the height – radius of the rig mast. Assessed the situation and developed a dynamic risk assessment plan to stabilise the rig to reduce the potential of further movement. 08.02.24 – Re-deployed to site with Lift AP to assess recovery. Due to mast position, standard crane recovery was not possible. 09.02.24 – Specialist contractor utilised tracked machine (Marooka) to recover the

rig. The rig was returned to the plant workshop for review and assessment for damage prior to re-deployment. parties. All identified utilities will be checked by HBM and if required authorities will be informed to confirm if the utilities are energized or not

Lessons Learnt:

Difficult to state at this moment in time as full investigation and root cause is not fully confirmed. FPS Working Platform Certificate was completed along with the Platform Designers details appointed by the PC. PC is carrying out their own internal investigation in relation to working platform design, install and maintenance process.