















Mining the Diamond Alert

Event

A three person Hydro crew (pipefitters) were tasked to lower a 20-pound propane cylinder from a deck approximately 60 feet above grade using a rope and a propane cylinder sling. A quick release knot was used to secure the rope to the propane cylinder sling. While lowering the cylinder, it is believed that the frayed end of the knot caught in the grating and the weight of the load caused the knot to untie; as a result the propane cylinder dropped approximately 55 feet to the ground. The cylinder was damaged upon impact, but was not breached. The Emergency Response Team was notified and they assessed the cylinder for leakage (no leak detected). The propane tank was removed from the area and was taken to a safe location to be vented (emptied). No one was injured; however, a person was only 5 feet from where the cylinder impacted the ground.

Corrective Actions

- 1. Contractor to design purpose built ropes with pelican hooks for lifting/lowering smaller tools and equip tool cribs with dedicated standard lengths of rope for this work.
- 2. Contractor to develop a standard for knot usage and selection, specifying which knots are acceptable for each discipline and operation.

Risk Tolerance Factors

- 1) Seriousness of Outcome
- Voluntary Actions and Being in Control

Why is this considered a Diamond event?

If-not-for-luck, this incident could have resulted in serious injury.



The diamond alert is issued to raise awareness of incidents that occurred while performing known higher risk activities. Incidents that "if not for luck", could have produced more severe consequences. The higher risk activities include Excavation, Working at Heights, Transportation/Haulage, Energy Isolation, Confined Space and Lifting/Rigging.





