

# **IPLOCA HSE WORKSHOP**

## **JULY 01, 2015**

*Lessons Learned:  
Experience  
resulting from  
near miss*

# WHAT HAPPENED

During the P & I phase for a project in Baku, Azerbaijan, there was constant need to hire cranes for a variety of tasks.

Upon delivery of equipment a request was made to hire a crane from a local company, along with a request for the necessary certification, including the most recent certificate of Thorough Test and Examination. The necessary documentation was received and checked; all looked in order and in line with the requirements of local Azeri regulations and our HSEMS Programme for Lifting Operations - Inspection & Maintenance.

# WHAT HAPPENED

When six trucks with the equipment arrived on site, the crane also arrived but could not start work due to high winds. The crane was parked up overnight and the next day a decision taken to use a quayside crane for the unloading. The unloading went smoothly and according to the compiled Lifting Plan and the hired crane was off hired.

However, due to the diligence of one of the client inspectors, who checked the hired crane certification with the testing company, it was discovered the test certificate supplied was a copy of a previously conducted test, with the date changed.

# WHAT HAPPENED

The crane was only two years old, however the hire company chose not to have it re-tested in 2014. Rather, the crane hiring company chose to save the cost of the Test and Thorough examination and falsified the 2013 certificate with an amended date for 2014. While we expect to be able to rely on the integrity and honesty of the companies involved in hiring cranes to conduct heavy lifts, it appears we cannot.

# LESSONS LEARNED

- We cannot afford to trust a number of crane hire companies, as this example has proven.
- We must always check the supplied certification and all other related documentation for authenticity.
- We must have crane hire companies pre-approved before including on our approved suppliers list.
- Where our clients have nominated, pre-approved crane hire companies, use them.

# SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS

## Summary

1. Check with the Testing Company, the validity of all certification.
2. Do not trust the authenticity of documents sent from crane hire companies.
3. Use only the client recommended / approved crane suppliers here in Azerbaijan.

## Recommendations

1. Remain vigilant and suspicious of all documentation supplied from hire companies
2. Never drop our guard and become complacent because documents appear to look in order.
3. Check every test certificate with the relevant testing company for authenticity.