

LOCATION : Greece
Construction Site

INCIDENT TYPE:RESTRICTED DUTY

DATE: 21/06/2017

What happened?

During the removal of an external line up clamp on a 48 inches pipeline, the front-end pipe crew – 4 workers - rotated manually the clamp in order to remove it and to place it in another position. Before the clamp was completely removed from the pipe, the finger of one of the worker was trapped among the pipe and the clamp. The worker suffered an injury of the right index finger. The worker was using gloves.

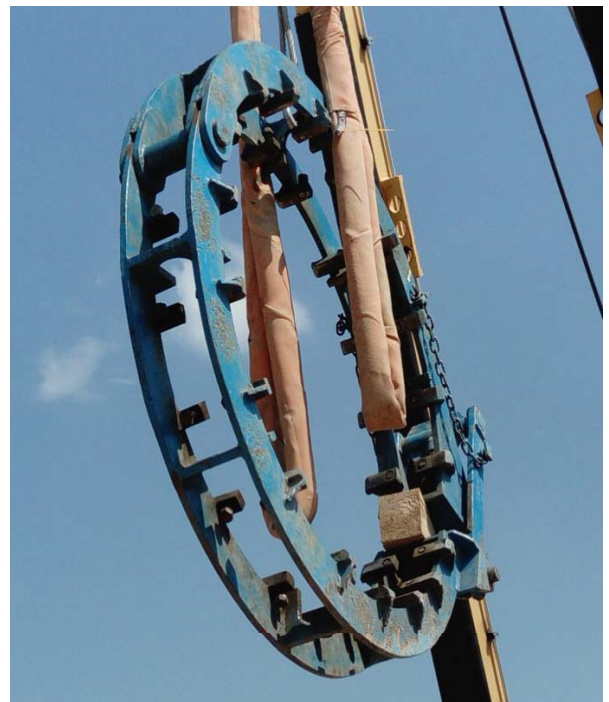
Incident location

Why did it happen?

- The pipe crew operating the clamp from both sides of the pipe did not have a direct visual contact between themselves.
- The work was performed inside the canopy, causing restriction in the movements of the workers.
- Poor communication between the team members operating the clamp, unsynchronized actions, without direct visual contact.
- The external clamp weight does not allow effortless handling to the workers.

How can we prevent recurrence of similar incidents?

- The task planning and the level of supervision are critical to raise the awareness of workers involved in such operations.
- The collection of improvement suggestions from workers, tied in with the incentive scheme and with a reward for the best suggestion should be encouraged.
- Classroom and on site hand safety training sessions for all personnel specifically involved in tie-ins and in general in the use of clamps, including foremen must be planned.
- Possible alternative methods for the use of the clamp during alignment and line up of the pipes should be verified.
- Impact gloves for aligning and coupling activities may provide additional protection for similar activities.
- Colour coding of the zones on the clamp where is safe to put hands is also recommended



External clamp



Anti impact gloves

HSE – is not just what you say, it's what you do!