

Location : Greece – R.o.W.

Incident Type :HIPO Near Miss
PIPE SLIP

Date: 09/01/2017

What happened?

While preparing the area for the automatic welding activities on an incline, in the action of lifting one pipe that had to be welded, the moment that the pipe was starting to being lifted by the side-boom, an adjacent pipe slipped from the skid crotch and the earth berm and slid towards the lower part of the slope, for the length of approx 25 metres.

An excavator operator which was working in the line of fire, used the bucket of the excavator to stop the pipe march. Despite the fact that the sliding pipe was moving slowly, the excavator was pushed back approximately 2 metres from the weight of the pipe. The operator did not suffer consequences from the event.

Incident location

Why did it happen?

The cause of the near miss according to testimonies and analysis is to be ascribed to vibrations, most likely caused by the excavator during the compaction of soil.

Icing and cold weather also played a critical role in the occurrence

How can we prevent recurrence of similar incidents?

Method statements in use shall be revised to ensure that they are aligned with the current best practices from the international standards.

All concerned Supervisors and Foremen to be informed of the contents of the revised MS.

The lesson learned shall be communicated through stand downs and meetings to all personnel.

All personnel shall be trained on working on steep slopes and in combination with ice and inclement weather.

Conditions of all pipe strung on slopes to be assessed meticulously.

Warning signs to be installed at all slopes indicating the slope category and further signage shall address the issue not to stay/work in zones below areas where pipe movement is carried out



The moment the excavator stopped the pipe



The layout at the moment the pipe slipped

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