

# SAFETY ALERT

## HiPo – FALL FROM HEIGHT POTENTIAL DURING CLEANING OPERATION

### DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT

Following cargo discharge of a marine aggregate's dredger, an employee was detailed to washdown the hopper's forward slope with a fire hose. The employee stood on a raised hatch cover, close to an unprotected edge with a significant fall from height potential. Another employee noticed this action and stepped in, explaining the danger. The work was then completed from the well deck (same area but lower as not on the hatch), affording protection due to a ledge. The new employee had completed all familiarisation. A point of work risk assessment (TAKE 5) was not completed prior to this task, it was not considered necessary being a common job, with no apparent danger.

### HOW COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED

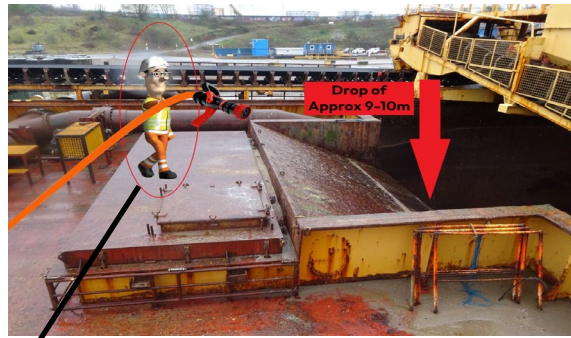
- By completing the task from an alternative area with sufficient edge protection in place to reduce fall from height potential, The washdown method has now been adjusted where it is now completed from the sides where a handrail guard exists, and additional handrails are left in situ.
- Periodic reviews of tasks / processes, including those considered low risk, to ensure all hazards / risks have been identified and controlled
- Avoid complacency especially during 'routine tasks'

### KEY REVIEW POINT

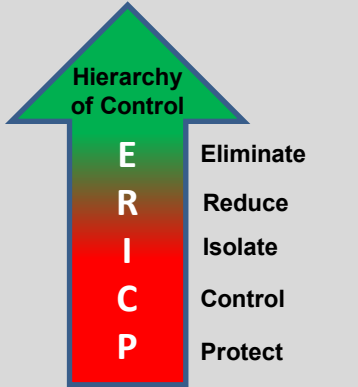
- A point of work risk assessment (TAKE-5) should have been completed prior to the task. Everyone is encouraged to revisit the TAKE-5 process, especially for routine and 'apparently' trivial tasks.

### KEY FINDINGS

Safe Systems	No work instruction, Risk Assessment or safe system of work existed for the task
Risk Perception	Perception for the task was of trivial risk by employee and supervisors.
Take-5	No Point of work risk assessment/TAKE-5) had been completed prior to the task
Process	The task was considered 'routine' and had been completed on many previous occasions, this may have led to complacency regarding the associated risk



Our employee was located close to an unprotected edge



**Look after yourself and each other**

Don't let anyone act unsafely, always stop unsafe practices.

**Tools and Equipment**

Use the right, well maintained, tools/ equipment for the job. Never make do.

**Safe Systems**

Follow safe systems of work, site rules, signage and traffic signals.

**STOP THINK ACT**