

HIGH POTENTIAL NEAR MISS UNSECURE TREMIE PIPES



Incident details

During the offloading of a 4m tremie rack from the back of a wagon it was observed that one of the pipes (1m section) had made its way loose during transport.

Due to the position of the pipe there was the potential for the pipe to fall from the trailer striking another road user or pedestrian leading to fatality, significant injury or damage.

The pipe was re-installed, and the rack was then unloaded pending investigation.



Findings

The initial investigation found that the spring-loaded securing pins that lock the tremie pipe securing bar was not present on the rack involved in the near miss (see pictures below).



Tremie rack with the locking pins fitted



Tremie rack involved in the incident

Possible causes of the incident

Possible causes of the incident are:

- Damaged equipment not being correctly reported to the foreman for rectification.
- Inadequate inspection of the rack that should have identified the missing pin.

Recommendations

Following this incident please ensure the following actions are undertaken immediately:

- A through pre-use visual inspection is undertaken on **all** racks including the condition and operation of the securing pins prior to loading onto vehicles.
- Any visible damage that has the potential to affect the stability or safety of the rack must be reported immediately to the foreman who will arrange for repair.
- A review is being undertaken by the design team regarding a minor modification that will prevent a re-occurrence.
- Refer to the previous SHEQ campaign or the SHEQ department for further advice.

