

Tank Cable Strikes Employee

SAFETY ALERT

ISSUE #: 02-2014

Enform

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For more information on this event, please contact: safety@enform.ca

Description of Incident:

Two employees were assigned to lay down standing 400bbl tanks. Their task involved attaching a winch line to the tank cable and tipping the tank onto the bed of the truck. The bed truck with the tank attached is then moved to the desired location and the tank is unloaded (laid down) to face the lease entrance so a tractor can load the tank and haul it to location to be cleaned. The driver reversed to position the truck in front of the tank and the swamper attached the truck winch to the tank cable. The tank cable was visually inspected prior to being attached and did not appear to be faulty. As the driver began to winch the tank onto the truck, the bottom of the tank slipped (kicked) out. The tank cable broke and the winch line snapped back towards the rear of the truck cab. The winch line tail chain came through the rear window of the truck, striking the driver on the right side of his head and face. The driver was taken to hospital for examination and x-rays and was released the same day.



Broken Tank Cable used in task



Window guard was not secured during task

By industry, for industry

Corrective/Preventive Actions:

Investigation provided the following recommendations:

- A. When winching tanks onto truck, the bottom front edge of the tank should be positioned so the tank is prevented from kicking out. This can be done by lining up the bottom edge of the tank with a slight overhang over the edge of the mat. The edge of the mat will prevent the tank from kicking out in the event that the truck fails to roll forward or the tank slips on the mat.
- B. Ensure that the cage of the rear window is always in the closed and locked position.
- C. Cables on tanks used to attach to the winch line should be inspected and replaced as necessary.