

DLCO Near Miss – Fall Of Scaffolding Tower



Event

- At DLCO on 2/11/13 at 1830 hours, a Fosbel refractory team was tasked with moving a narrow based scaffolding tower (Aka - zip up).
- The 3 x man workgroup, detached the tower from the oven door buck- stays, removed the out rigging legs and disengaged the wheel brakes and wheeled the tower along the battery bench walkway, but as it was manhandled over the guide machine rail it tipped, became top heavy and toppled over.
- This resulted in the top tier (3rd) fell over the bench handrail and onto the coke car track
- There were no injuries – the actual consequence was to the 3rd tier – but the potential was significant!

Findings

- The “simple” task of moving the tower was flawed due to tower being 3-tiers high and when detached from buck-stays it become unmanageable and unstable

Initial Investigation Findings / Root cause

- **P2 - Competent People** – non of the workgroup were trained to erect / dismantle the tower
- **P3 – Hazard Identification** – the workgroup failed to consider / address the hazards
- **P9 – Managing Contractors** – plant interactions / audits of contractors failed to identify safety gaps

Recommended Actions

- Address training and competency T&C gaps
- Carry out hazard awareness / perception training (Felt Brothers Keeper 2)
- Cascade / share and learn to all working groups

Just Culture evaluation

- TBC

TATA STEEL

Severity rating

2

Potential major injury

