



SAFETY ALERT

Shared Learnings



INCIDENT TITLE:

Yaw gear slipped out of hand and swung into the Turbine Tower EVE-0000629 **(Part 2 Comms)**

TIME AND DATE OF INCIDENT:

02/10/2023 Te Uku Wind Farm

INCIDENT DETAIL :

A team of 4 workers were lifting a Yaw Gear of the back of a Ute with the service crane inside the turbine. The worker on the ground parked the Ute off the centre of the crane due to the wind blowing the hook. The Yaw Gear was to be lifted out of its timber cradle and then up to the nacelle. Due to the worker not pressing the radio button correctly a broken message was heard by the worker doing the lifting, he presumed he could lift the load. This resulted in the load being lifted while the worker was still in the Drop Zone. He tried to hang on to the load by hand, but it pulled away from him as the lift was too heavy to control without a Push/Pull stick or a Tag line.

Yaw gear weight:220 kg (this was only estimated on the day)

LEARNINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THIS INCIDENT:

It is important that nobody is in the Drop Zone when a lift is taking place or workers are working at height.

1. Radio comms should be checked prior to the lift taking place. There should be clear 2-way communication between the Dogman and the Lifting person.
2. Never presume that you heard the right command if you receive ½ a message. Always question the command.
3. The person in charge of a lift is always the Rigger/Dogman. This person must **be trained and found competent** to do these High-Risk tasks. Use the Staylive Competency assessments.
4. The workers did discuss the safe lifting of this gear after the event. This should be done as part of your planning. Never become complacent doing everyday lifts.

INITIAL RESPONSE AND INVESTIGATION OUTCOMES :

After the event happened the dogman and the person at the crane had a quick meeting on the radio to discuss what happened, what they could have done better and how to communicate clearly. They also discussed in detail how to proceed with the lift safely.

PHOTO:



THE CORPORATE SAFETY AND HEALTH TEAM ARE CURRENTLY WORKING ON SYSTEMS TO SUPPORT THE ABOVE LEARNINGS. IF INTERESTED IN VIEWING THE FULL INVESTIGATION REPORT FOR THIS INCIDENT, IT CAN BE FOUND HERE:

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