Operator spots an incorrectly fitted D-Link prior to lifting operation, preventing potential for a failure in the lift and serious injury.

WHAT HAPPENED

Whilst carrying out a pre-lift inspection, the operator noticed that a bolt on the D-link was not correctly fitted. Failure to spot and correct this could have resulted in a serious injury or fatality.

This alert is a reminder of the critical importance of proper planning, communications, and execution during all crane lifting operations.

Recent observations and incidents have highlighted the potential for serious injury, equipment damage, and operational delays when lift procedures are not followed correctly. All personnel involved in crane activities must remain vigilant, adhere to established lifting plans, and ensure that safety controls are in place before, during and after each lift.

The images below show the pin for the shackle had not been properly secured with only a few threads engaged.







LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

Importance of correctly fitting a D-Link attachment

- Ensuring a D-Link (shackle or lifting link) is fitted correctly is critical to the safety and integrity of any lifting operation
- A D-Link connects lifting components such as slings, hooks, and loads, and must be properly aligned and secured to prevent failure under load.
- If fitted incorrectly, such as cross-loading the pin, using the wrong size or type, or failing to fully tighten and secure the pin – the link can deform or fail, resulting in dropped loads, equipment damage, or serious injury.
- Proper fitting ensures that the load is evenly distributed through the link, maintaining the rated lifting capacity and ensuring the lift proceeds safely and efficiently.
- Always inspect D-Links before use, confirm that they match the lifting plan specifications, and follow the manufacturer guidelines for installation.





LOCATION:	**CONCRETE PRODUCTS PLANT**	**ALERT STATUS:**	**Normal**
ACTIVITY:	**LIFTING**	**DATE ISSUED:**	**03/12/2025 18:18:37**
SUB ACTIVITY:	**NO SUB ACTIVITY AVAILABLE**	**INCIDENT No:**	**04955**