

## **Lifting Operations**

**When lifting operations go wrong, they tend to be serious.**

**Typical incidents would be loads being dropped or the lifting equipment overturning.**

**It doesn't matter what the lifting equipment is – mobile crane, tower crane, excavator, Hiab – all have the potential to go wrong.**

- Due to the risks involved, these operations have to be properly planned and carried out by competent people.
- As a minimum, competent means:-
  - Operators – current and relevant CPCS card
  - Slinger/Signaller – current and relevant CPCS card
- Don't try and undertake these operations unless you are competent.
- Operators, slingers and signallers need their full attention on the job when undertaking lifts - don't distract them.
- Be aware of lifting operations taking place around you – don't put yourself in a position where a suspended load is over you.
- Any lifting operation is only as good as its weakest link – it is therefore essential that no equipment is abused to ensure it stays in good condition.
- Don't use chains, slings or any other equipment for any other purpose, such as towing vehicles.
- Keep out of the working area of the equipment, be aware of the slew area of the machine and don't put yourself in a position where you can be trapped by the counterweight.

### **Questions:**

- 1 How can lifting operations fail?
- 2 What issues do you need to consider if lifting operations are taking place around you?

Further Information:- CIP Manual, Section 9