

Safety Alert

NEAR MISS Cable Drum Breakaway

The Incident

A support driver collected a GAP drum trailer containing a drum of 95LV cable from Kettering DC for delivery to a site where he assisted the team with pulling the cable into the trench.

He then left the site with the empty drum and trailer and was proceeding along a quiet “B” road to another site. After travelling a short distance he discovered / noticed that the empty drum was missing from the cable drum trailer. He reported the incident to his line manager. The incident line was informed.

He retraced his journey and located the drum and drum spindle bar approximately 500 metres from the start of his journey in a shallow ditch.

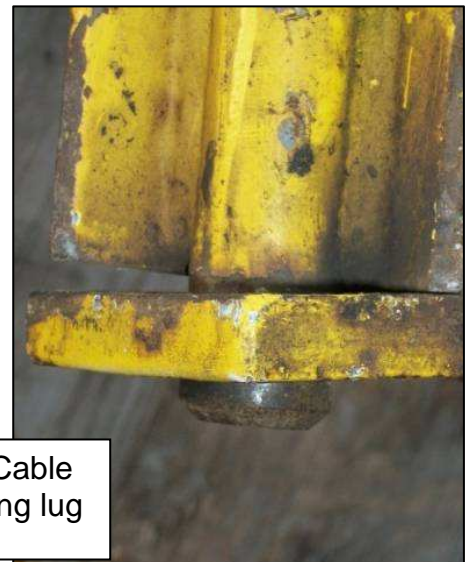
The drum was retrieved and returned to the depot where the trailer was inspected by a fitter for mechanical defects. None were found

Investigation identified human error in that the support driver had failed to carry out adequate checks to confirm the security of the load by correctly locating the retaining bar lug in its housing.

It was also found that the GAP trailer retaining bar had a shorter “retaining lug” than that on the Morrison plant cable trailer.



MUS Plant Cable
Trailer bar retaining lug



GAP Plant Hire Cable
Trailer bar retaining lug

Actions required

Drivers must;

- Be trained and competent to use the plant/equipment.
- Ensure that all securing devices are correctly aligned and fitted.
- Visually and physically check that safety pins / clips are correctly fitted and secure.
- Report all defects and damages as a matter of urgency and do not use if not safe/serviceable.
- Always ensure that all towed loads are secured before driving off.

Remember

Nothing we do is so important that we cannot take the time to do it safely