



## ALERT

August 2009

### NYLON SLING FAILURE

#### Description of incident

In summary, a structural steel and bondeck roof section, complete with handrails, weighing approx 11 tonne, was being lifted by site tower crane to be positioned on top of a silo. During the lifting of the roof section, the nylon slings failed, causing the load to fall to the ground. Fortunately no-one was injured or killed.

This incident is another reminder of the dangers when nylon slings are used to lift structural steel. Last year in New York City, a crane collapse, which left seven people dead and destroyed much of two city blocks, was caused by the failure of nylon slings supporting a series of manual winches from steel beams.

#### When using nylon slings remember

- The number one cause of nylon sling failure is load edge movement against the sling. Always use packing to prevent slings coming into contact with sharp edges.
- A nylon sling will lose more than 10% of its strength when it is wet.
- They must be inspected before each use. Send slings for a proof load test at least every 12 months.
- Never use if label has been removed.



For further information or advice on this issue or any other health and safety issue, don't hesitate to contact your union on 9221 1055 or Mick Buchan direct on 0419 812 861. Email [mbuchan@cfmeuwa.com](mailto:mbuchan@cfmeuwa.com)



**Report unsafe sites and safety procedures in WA:  
call 08. 9221 1055. You can also text 0419 812 861**

Authorised by CFMEU WA Branch 82 Royal Street East Perth WA 6004 [www.cfmeuwa.com](http://www.cfmeuwa.com)

# SAFETY IS UNION BUSINESS