

Hydro Tasmania

SAFETY OR ENVIRONMENT BRIEF

Topic

Brief Number (YYMMDD)	251104	Date Issued	4 November 2025
SAP Number (if applicable)	82804	Approved By	Head of WHS
Action Required?	Yes		

Summary

On 3 November 2025, an incident occurred in the Cambridge workshop fabrication area. Two soft slings were used to lift/tilt a fabricated frame weighing approximately 1,200 kg. During the lift, both slings were in contact with the frame's sharp edge. The frame was initially tilted to about 600 mm off the ground to test the weight, with no issues observed. However, when the frame was lifted further to approximately 1,200 mm, one sling sheared and failed, causing the load to drop to one side. This sudden shift overloaded the second sling, which also failed, resulting in the frame dropping to the ground. Both employees involved were clear of the drop zone and no one was injured.

Investigation is currently underway, and further details will be shared upon completion.

Photos



Slings used to
lift frame

Message

- Use certified lifting chains whenever sharp edges may be present. If chains cannot be used, ensure soft slings are protected with appropriate edge protection.
- Never assume that an edge isn't sharp enough to cause damage, even slightly sharp edges can cut or weaken slings.
- Plan for lift failure by identifying potential risks and putting controls in place to keep people clear of the fall zone.
- Preventing falls from heights, lifting safely and remaining clear of suspended loads are part of Hydro Tasmania's Life Saving Rules. In addition, timely reporting of events as per incident management procedure.

Handy Links:

[Lifting & Rigging Procedure](#)

[Incident Management Procedure](#)