H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL

SAFETY ALERT

Alert #: SA 25-22 Date: August 3rd, 2022

Near Miss From Dropped Propane Bottle

We recently had a near miss while lowering material from a scaffold. A welder working on a 15' scaffold was lowering a 5 pound propane bottle with weed burner to the deck with a yellow synthetic rope. While being lowered the propane bottle came to rest on a scaffold bar causing slack in the knot. As the employee tried to continue lowering the bottle, the knot completely loosened and the propane bottle fell to the deck below. The area was properly barricaded and there were no injuries.

It was determined that the rope being used was the wrong type/tool for the job. The job was stopped and a safety stand-down was held for everyone working on that job.

Incident Factors:

- Propane bottle was being lowered with a yellow synthetic rope.
- Propane bottle came to rest on a scaffold bar causing slack in the rope
- Rope's knot loosened from the propane bottle
- Propane bottle fell inside the scaffold and inside of the barricaded area
- Large wide nozzle at the end of the weed burner came off and was put back on.

Root Causes:

- Improper tool usage (yellow synthetic rope)
- Improper load securement

Recommended Actions:

- GIS Leadership to provide rigging rope to lift and lower tools and equipment.
- Utilize tool bags for small items to prevent slipping out of rope.
- Remove attachments from propane bottles before lifting and lowering to prevent damage to the equipment.

Continue to Do:

- Utilize dropped objects checklist
- Barricade area below when working at heights with danger tape to create drop zone.
- Utilize stop work to put corrective actions in place

Do Differently:

- Use provided rigging ropes to lift and lower tools and equipment
- Remove all attachments before lowering propane bottles to prevent damage to equipment.
- Utilize tool bags for small items such as nozzles to lower tools and equipment while working at heights.

Report all incidents immediately to the GIS Hotline 1-855-543-5163.