



H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 04-20

Date: April 20, 2020

Dropped Scaffold Board

A crew was conducting scaffold building operations. They were moving a 7' metal scaffold board onto a scaffold frame outside of the platform on the power module deck. A scaffold supervisor and scaffold builder were holding a 7' metal scaffold board to drop it into place, when an employee lost his grip of the board causing the board to fall into the Gulf of Mexico. Upon losing his grip, the Scaffold Supervisor turned to see that the other employee was still standing by and only the scaffolding board had fallen into the water. The scaffolding Supervisor immediately stopped work and reported it to their supervisor. Once the Supervisor was informed of the incident, they initiated a safety pause for all of GIS Operations.



Area where the board was supposed to land.

Error Precursors/Corrective Actions:

(1) Change of Routine/Congested Work Area – They were handing materials through a 12" space

Why? – The crew was working around a sign that was obstructing the work area.

Corrective Action – Consider a different approach to begin building scaffolding.

(2) Poor Manual Dexterity – Employee was in an awkward position while placing the metal board.

Why? – There was only room for one person to build scaffolding.

Corrective Action – Consider utilizing rope access during the planning phase.

(3) Repetitive Actions – The angle of the board was not viewed as a hazard.

Why? – The expectation was the metal board would fall into place as it had always done in the past.

Corrective Actions – Personnel to reposition themselves for better control of the board.

(4) Loss of Focus – The same practice that had always been utilized did not account for changes.

Why? – Normalization of the job, even though the situation was different it did not allow for changes.

Corrective Action – Re-asses the job prior to beginning work to identify changes and modify techniques as needed.

SAFETY ALERT