

Forest Industry Safety Alert



Series of near misses at log trailer reload

Location: near Vanderhoof, BC

Date: Second Half of 2014

Details of Incidents: In the last five months, Pitka Logging Ltd. has experienced three serious near-miss events at a trailer reloading station. In all cases, the driver was uninjured as they were following procedures while out of harm's way.

Incident #1 - The cable broke on the reload hoist. Fortunately the trailer was only suspended a foot above the ground, and the driver was in a safe zone.

Incident #2 - A molly failed immediately after being connected to the cable hook. The faulty molly slipped through the cable hook, and the trailer never left the ground.

Incident #3 - The weld mounts failed on the guiding apron suspended on the reload station, causing the apron to fall. It landed on the reach of the truck in the immediate area that the driver would connect safety chains prior to moving the truck. Fortunately the driver was safely inside his truck when this occurred.

Cause: Lack of proper inspection / maintenance was the root cause for all three failures (see *photos on following pages*).

Recommendation: All drivers need to understand how important it is to stay out of the bight at all times while using any apparatus - either on the block, in the mill yard or at the shop.

For more information on this submitted alert: Valerie Dettwiler, Griffon Safety Solutions Ltd.
(250) 567-7823 or email: griffonsafety@me.com

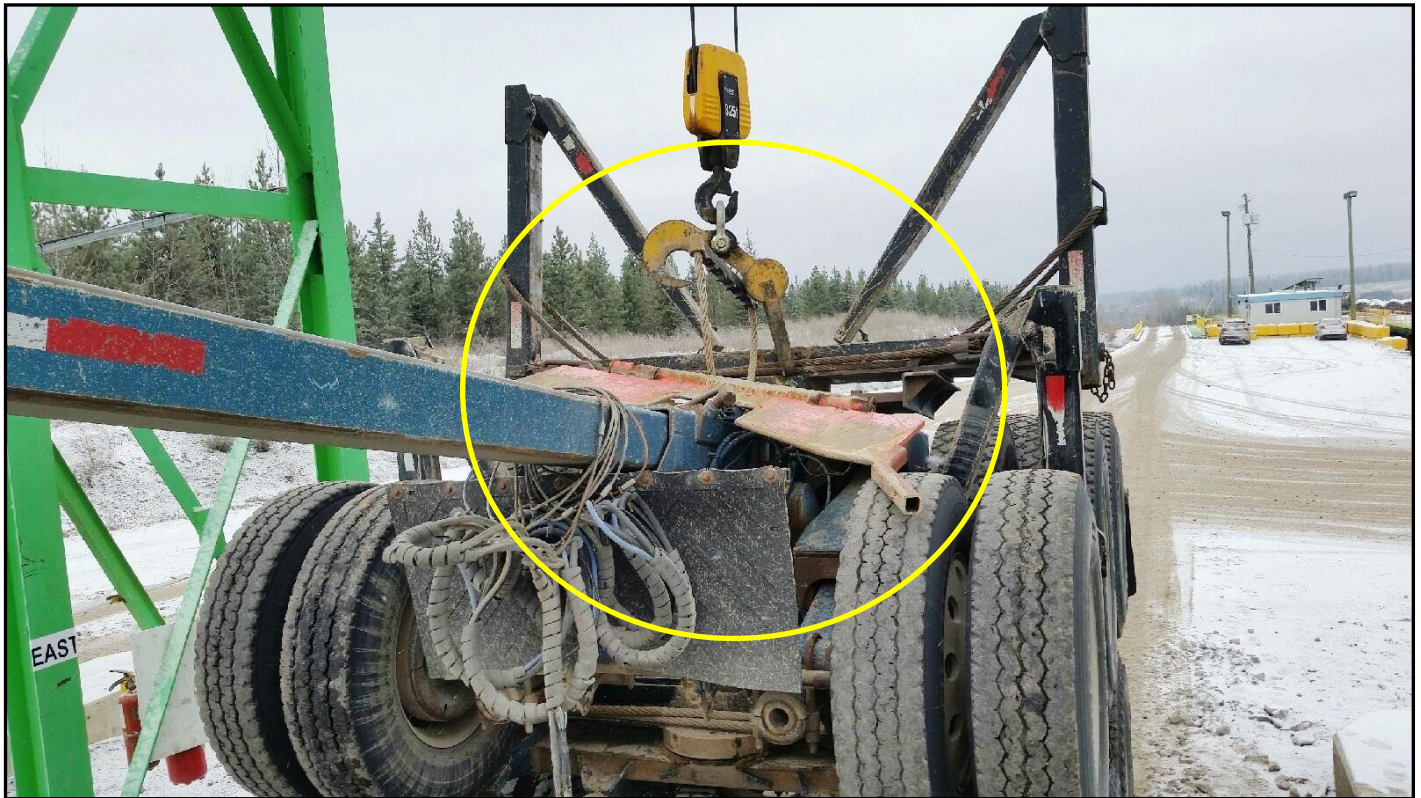


Photo above: The weld mounts failed on the guiding apron suspended on the reload station, causing the apron to fall. It landed on the reach of the truck in the immediate area that the driver would connect safety chains prior to moving the truck. Fortunately the driver was safely inside his truck when this occurred.

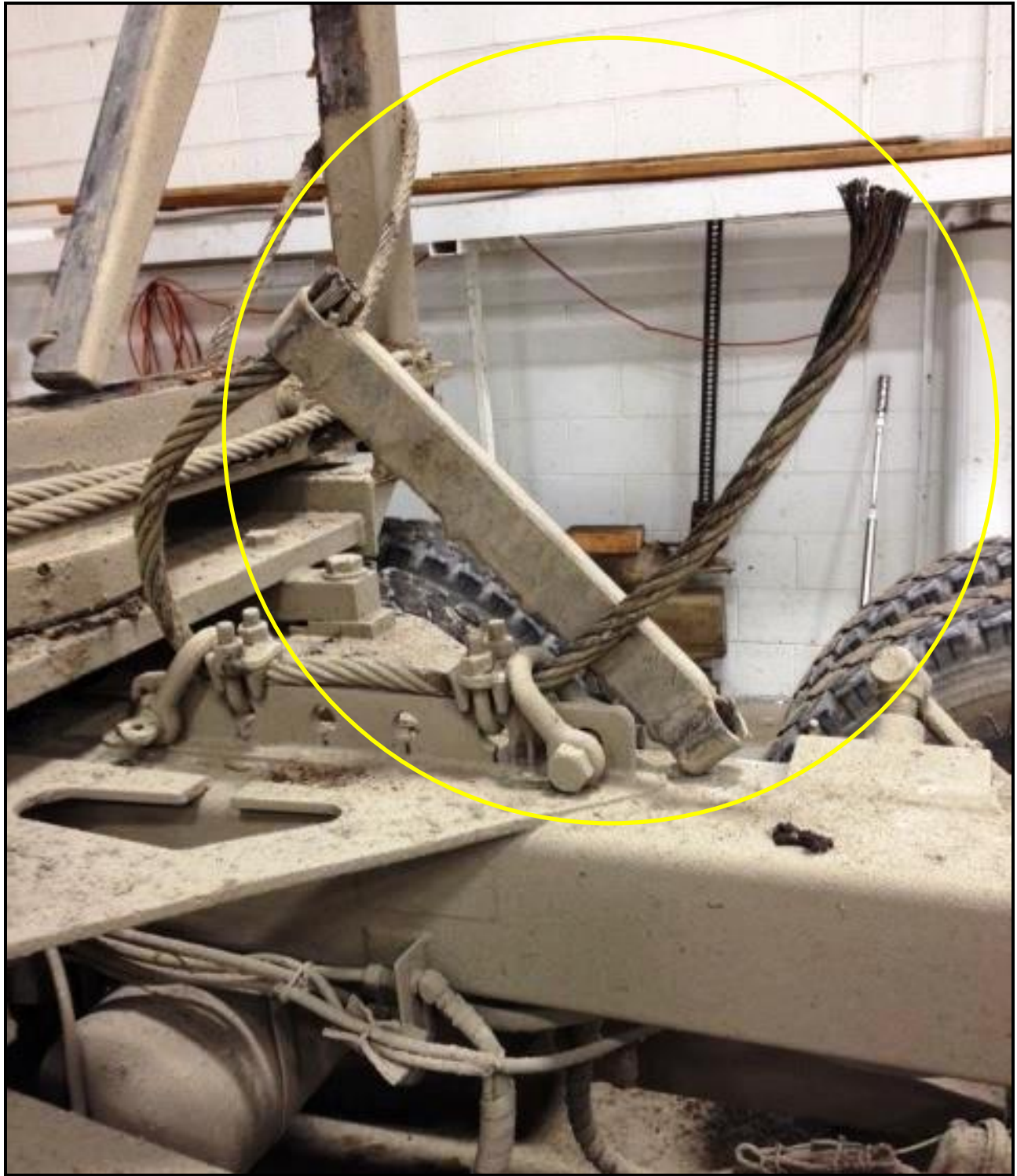


Photo above: A molly failed immediately after being connected to the cable hook. The faulty molly slipped through the cable hook, and the trailer never left the ground.



Photo above: The cable broke on the reload hoist. Fortunately the trailer was only suspended a foot above the ground, and the driver was in a safe zone.