

Safety Advisory

Event Date: 30 / 11 / 2020

For Internal and External Distribution

Cracks in welded crane connections

Description of Event:

Palfinger NZ have released the attached Service Information C-11/2020 to their Service Partners concerning small cracks appearing in the welded connection between the piston rod and the mounting boss on the main lift and outer boom cylinders. Palfinger advise “the cracks found to date appear to be fatigue or stress fractures and we [Palfinger] do not believe they propose [pose] an immediate concern for a catastrophic failure.”

Inspections of our relevant fleet started last week. The cracks can initially be identified by a slight rusting in the crease of the welded boss area as indicated in image shown in the Palfinger NZ’s Service Information sheet.

Actions:

- All cranes in your fleet are to be checked for signs of cracks appearing in the welded connection between the piston rod and the mounting boss on the main lift and outer boom cylinders.
 - If a crack is suspected contact your Business Unit Manager for further inspection to be arranged with the Service Agent and a mitigation plan put in place.
 - Mark the limits of the crack with a permanent marker to monitor any growth.
 - Inform all crane operators of the issue, and if their crane has been identified to have a crack advise them to:
 - Conduct daily inspections of the crack for signs of growth outside the permanent marker marks.
 - Any growth in the crack is to be immediately reported to the Business Unit Manager.
 - Take photos of the crack at least once a week and retain as a record.
- Confirm with your Service Agent(s) the below concerning cranes inspections:
 - The area of the main and outer lift cylinders are inspected as part of any routine service.
 - The routine annual inspection and certification process is performed by an approved inspection body.

For further information contact: Tracy Evans-Tracy, National HSE Manager, M: 021 507 170

Date of release: 1/12/2020

This Safety Advisory is for information purposes only and it is not to be relied upon as expert or professional advice or services. You are responsible for obtaining appropriate professional advice.

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Palfinger New Zealand SERVICE INFORMATION

PALFINGER
C-11/2020

Dear Service Partner,

In the last few days, we have been made aware of small cracks appearing in the welded connection between the piston rod and the mounting boss on the main lift and outer boom cylinders on a small number of cranes.

The majority of cranes affected to date have operating hours of 4000-5500.

We feel it necessary to make our service providers and customers aware of the potential for cracks in this area.

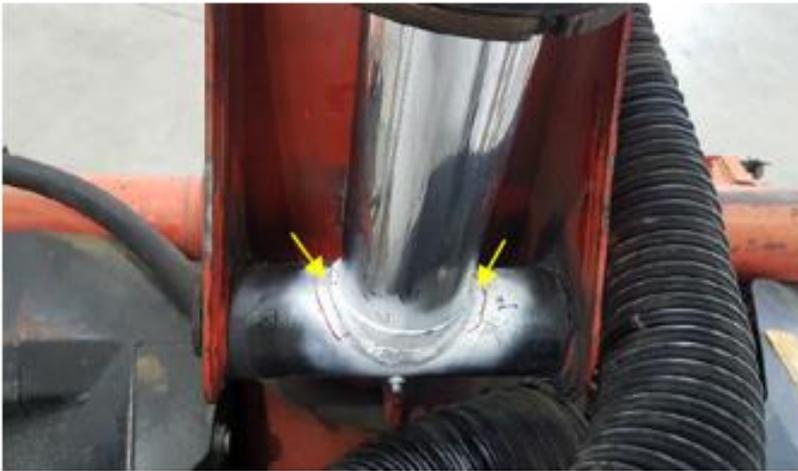
Even though we are still unsure of the root cause, the cracks found to date appear to be fatigue or stress fractures and we do not believe they propose an immediate concern for a catastrophic failure.

This area of the main and outer lift cylinders should be inspected as part of any routine service and especially part of the routine annual inspection and certification process which should be performed by an approved inspection body.

Palfinger New Zealand are in contact with the manufacturer to assist in the process of investigating further in an effort to ascertain the cause, and any potential remedy.

Below is an example of a recent unit that was crack tested showing the area of concern.

This is not a warranty issue unless the crane is less than 3 years old.



If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Grant Capper grant.capper@palfinger.co.nz 029 234 2927

Product Manager Palfinger New Zealand.

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