



## Coupling bolt fell from Crane

### WHAT HAPPENED?

During a standard operating test of the Islington Crane, a coupling bolt was found embedded in the top of a storage table below the crane. The bolt had fallen from the crane some time earlier. The crane was last certified in January 2018. The bolt dropped from a height of about 8m. While hard hats are worn when the crane is in use, a person standing below could still have been injured if they had been struck by the bolt.



### IMMEDIATE ACTION TAKEN

- The crane was isolated, and the incident was reported to Transpower.
- Service Provider located the missing nut and reinstalled the coupling bolt.
- The other coupling nuts were checked for tightness.



### ROOT CAUSE

Vibrations during operation of the crane caused the coupling nut to loosen over time. Eventually, the nut came completely off, and the bolt came free and fell out.

### LEARNINGS

- All nuts should be tightened to manufacturer specifications.
- Paint pens should be used to mark the position of nuts when tightened. This provides a reference for future inspections.
- The incident reinforces the importance of wearing hard hats when the crane is being operated.

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