



U.S. COAST GUARD EIGHTH DISTRICT  
GULF OF MEXICO OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF  
MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN



INCIDENT INVOLVING A FAST RESCUE CRAFT

MSIB 21-01

13 Jan 2021

On January 04, 2021, a Fast Rescue Craft (FRC) fell approximately 135 feet from a floating offshore facility while it was being manually winched to its stowed configuration. Fortunately, personnel disembarked the FRC just moments before it fell to the water and were not injured.

The U.S. Coast Guard is leading a joint agency investigation to determine the causal factors that contributed to this incident. While the investigative process will take some time to complete, we would like to share certain factual information immediately so that proactive measures can be taken to prevent recurrence.

- The wire rope was configured such that the bitter end was connected to the standing part via a crimp, forming the eye to which the hook had been connected.
- After the incident, the hook was found intact and closed, and remained attached to the FRC as it fell to the water. The bitter end of the wire rope was found to have separated from the crimp.
- The wire rope involved had recently been replaced.

During the investigation, metallurgic analysis will be conducted in order to determine the causal factors that led to the wire rope separating from the crimp.

Immediate and positive action by industry need not await the results of this investigation. It is recommended that all owners, operators, and masters verify that all weight-bearing wire ropes have been properly installed and tested.

For questions or concerns on regulatory compliance matters or the content of this MSIB, please contact the Officer in Charge Marine Inspections Outer Continental Shelf at 504-671-2106 or [OCSCorrespondence@uscg.mil](mailto:OCSCorrespondence@uscg.mil).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Denning".

Matthew J. Denning  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Eighth District Outer Continental Shelf  
Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection