



**FUELS INDUSTRY**  
Association of South Africa

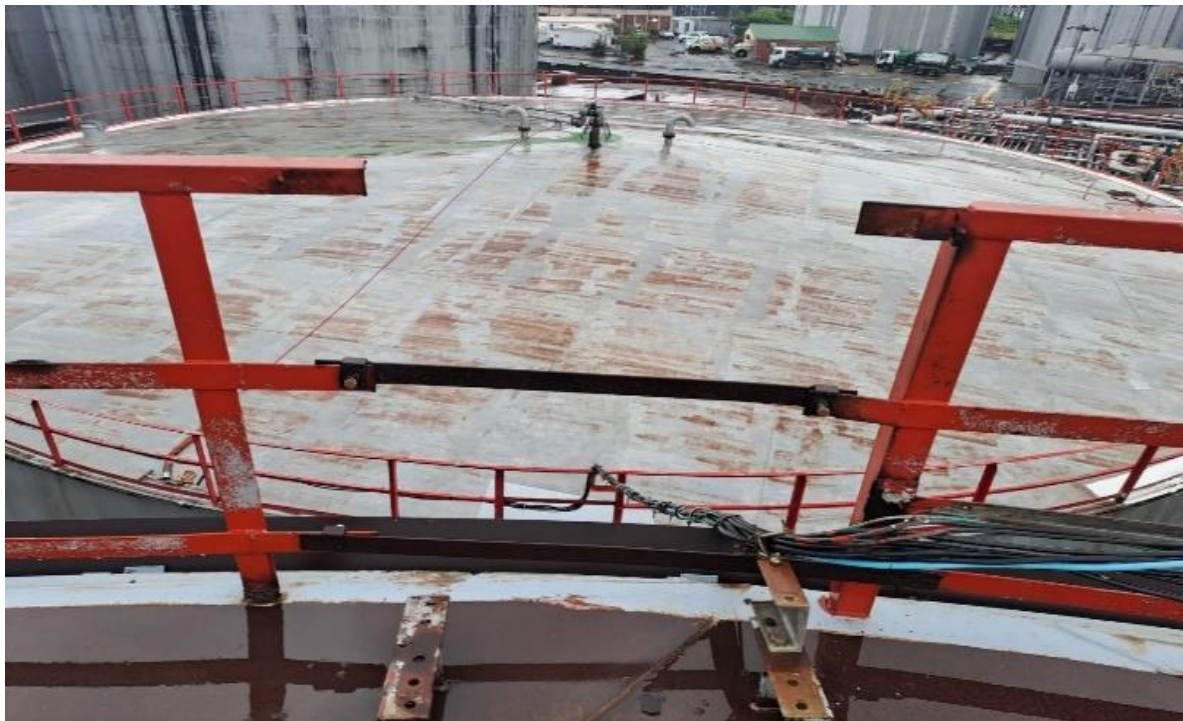
# LEARNING FROM INCIDENT (LFI) – FALLING OBJECT HIPO

2024



# INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

During lap rounds, operator reported finding a piece of handrailing was on the floor. It was a Handrailing piece (approximately 5kg) that came from the top of the tank. It was realised that the piece that fell (approx. 16m height) was a temporary piece installed after the sky-bridge was removed. This may have caused a fatal injury.





# INCIDENT ROOT CAUSE

- When the sky-bridge was removed and a temporary piece was installed, that piece was never painted/ galvanized to preserve the piece from corrosion. Due to this corrosion, the piece ended thinning out to a point of this failure where it broke off.
- U-clamp was of mild steel and stainless-steel bolts were used; and this accelerates corrosion. This to be considered for future handrail bolt up standard.
- LFI gaps closure: This was a repeat incident – 2 similar incidents were reported in 2021. Full close out of incident investigations findings and actions to be done.



# INCIDENT LEARNINGS

- Ensure that all handrails' installations are protected against corrosion before installing so that they last
- Operations and Tankage Maintenance inspection checklists to include Handrails and to be loaded as a controlled document.
- Confirm standard of handrails bolts up.
- Gaps and recommendations from similar incidents previous reports to be addressed to prevent a repeat incident.



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**Thank You**

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